

1881.

PROCEEDINGS

GRAND CHAPTER

Royal Arch Masons

OF CANADA,

AT ITS

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

HELD IN THE

Masonic Hall, James Street,
CITY OF HAMILTON.



Friday the 15th Day of July
A. D. 1881 A. M. 4.15 P. M.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED

ATTEST: DONALD ROSS, PETION, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID McLEOD, HAMILTON, ONT., DEPUTY SECRETARY

1881

J. W. THAYER, PRINTER, 100 N. 4TH ST., NEW YORK, N.Y.

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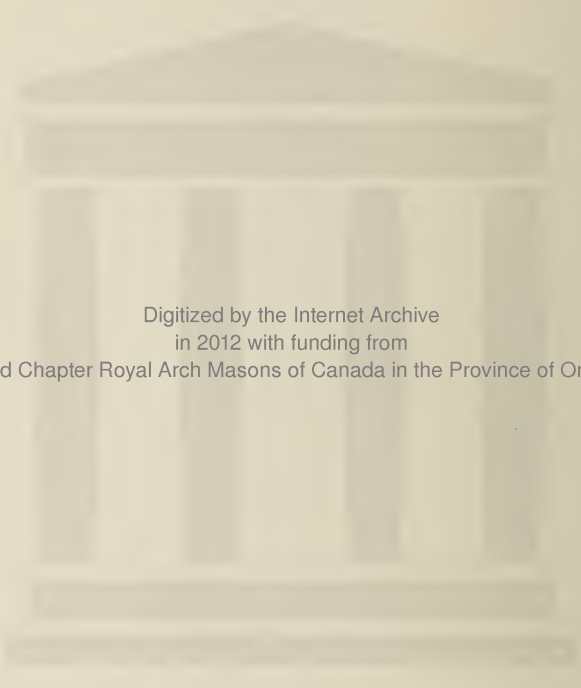


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1881.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF CANADA,

AT ITS

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD IN THE

Masonic Hall, James Street,
CITY OF HAMILTON.



Friday, the 15th Day of July,
A. D. 1881, A. L. 2411, A. L. 5837.

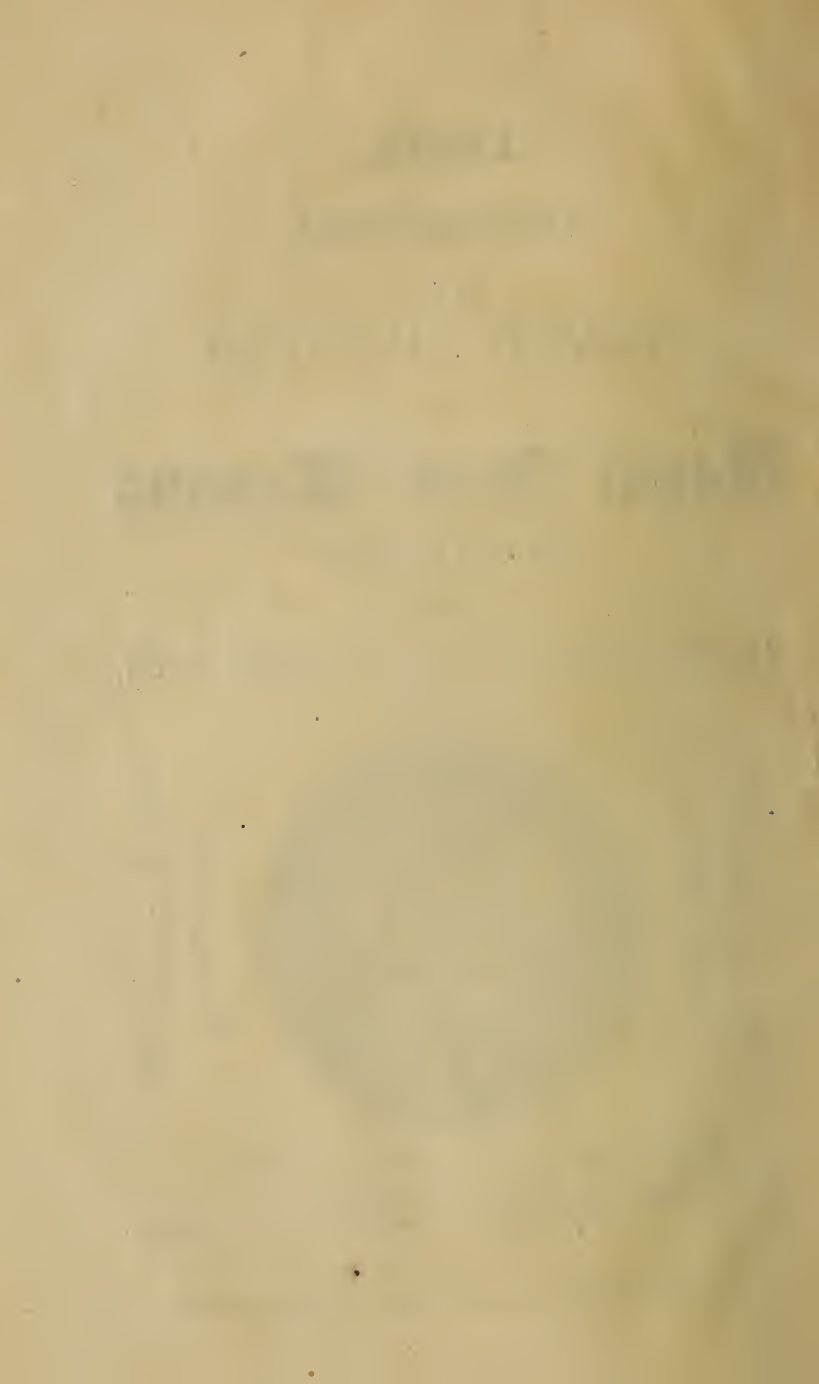
ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS:—DONALD ROSS, PICTON, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID MCLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

1881.

J. B. TRAYES, PRINTER, CRAFTSMAN STEAM PRESS, PORT HOPE, ONT.



Grand Chapter of Canada.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, James street, in the City of Hamilton, on Friday, the 15th day of July, A. D. 1881, A. I. 2411.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, Barrie,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. " "	Donald Ross, Picton,	" H.	
" " "	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound,	" J.	

On the Throne.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Gr'd Scribe E.
" " "	J. R. Robertson, Toronto,	" " N.
" " "	J. E. Tamlyn, Wingham,	" Prin. Soj.
" " "	J. W. Murton, Hamilton, as	" Treas.
" " "	E. H. D. Hall, Peterboro',	" Registrar.
V. " "	Francis Gallow, Toronto,	" Prin. Soj.
E. " "	W. L. Tackaberry, Chat'm, as	" 1st Asst. Soj.
" " "	J. Creasor, Owen Sound, as	" 2nd " "
" " "	John Overell, London, as	" Sword Bearer.
" " "	Geo. Hodgetts, Toronto, as	" Stan'd Bearer.
" " "	Colin Munro, Hamilton, as	" Dir. of Cer.
" " "	J. H. Kenning Prescott, as	" Organist.
V. E. " "	William Lawson, Picton,	" Pursuivant.
" " "	F. B. Gregory, Collingwood,	" Steward.
" " "	David Kennedy, Guelph,	" "
" " "	Alfred Taylor, Galt,	" "
" " "	H. S. Broughton, Bradf'd, as	" "
" " "	W. W. Summers,	" Janitor.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

R. E. Comp.	C. L. Beard, Woodstock, Wilson	District.
" "	" J. McLaren, Orangeville, Wellington	"
" "	" G. Stewart, Hamilton, Hamilton	"
" "	" I. F. Toms, Goderich, Huron	"
" "	" Geo. Walker, Beamsville, Niagara	"
" "	" Chas. Doeblor, Port Hope, Ontario	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	Jas. Seymour, St. Catharines,	Past G. Z.
"	" L. H. Henderson, Belleville,	" G. Z.
R. E.	" W. J. B. McL. Moore, Laprairie,	" G. H.
"	" Thos. C. Macnabb, Chatham,	" G. H.
"	" Henry Robertson, Collingwood,	" G. J.
"	" J. M. Meakins, Hamilton,	" G. Sup't.
"	" Wm. Carey, Hamilton,	" "
"	" A. G. Smyth, London,	" "
"	" Thos. Sargant, Toronto,	" "
"	" J. B. Nixon, Toronto,	" "
"	" R. Hendry, jr., Kingtson,	" "
"	" Geo. Walker, Beamsville,	" "
"	" H. K. Maitland, Guelph,	" "
"	" Jas. Wilson, Toronto,	" "
"	" R. Brierley, Hamilton,	" "
"	" J. W. Murton, Hamilton,	" "
"	" Donald McPhie, "	" "
"	" J. J. Mason, "	" G. R.
"	" Jas. Lockie, Berlin,	" "
"	" F. R. Despard, Hamilton,	" G. S N.
"	" Wm. Forbes, Grimsby,	" "
"	" Wm. Reid, Hamilton,	" G. P. Soj.
"	" Wm. Brydon, Toronto,	" "

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry, from Gr. Chap. of New Jersey.
"	" " " " Quebec.

M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour, from Gr. Chap. of Indiana.			
"	"	"	Iowa.
"	"	"	Mark Lodge of E. & W.
M. E.	"	L. H. Henderson,	Colorado.
R. E.	"	Isaac F. Toms,	Alabama.
"	"	John McLaren,	Arkansas.
"	"	Henry Macpherson,	California.
"	"	Donald Ross,	Connecticut.
"	"	T. C. Macnabb,	Delaware.
"	"	H. Robertson,	D. of Columbia
"	"	"	Mississippi.
"	"	"	New York.
"	"	David McLellan,	Georgia.
"	"	"	New Ha'pshire
"	"	"	Pennsylvania.
"	"	Thomas Sargant,	Kentucky.
"	"	W.J.B. McLeod Moore	Missouri.
R. E.	"	J. J. Mason,	Nevada.
"	"	Jas. Wilson,	North Carolina
"	"	J. B. Trayes,	Rhode Island.
"	"	R. Brierley,	Texas.
"	"	Wm. Brydon,	Virginia.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry.	R. E. Comp.	John Moore.
"	Jas. Seymour.	"	David McLellan.
"	L. H. Henderson	"	J. Ross Robertson
R. E.	Donald Ross.	"	J. E. Tamlyn.
"	H. Macpherson.	"	E. H. D. Hall.
"	C. L. Beard.	"	McLeod Moore.
"	J. McLaren.	"	Hy. Robertson.
"	Gavin Stewart.	"	T. C. Macnabb.
"	I. F. Toms.	"	J. M. Meakins.
"	J. W. Coy.	"	Wm. Carey.
"	Chas. Doeblor.	"	A. G. Smyth.
"	James Smith.	"	Thos. Sargant.

R. E. Comp.	J. B. Nixon.	R. E. Comp.	R. Hendry, Jr.
"	" Geo. Walker.	"	" H. K. Maitland.
"	" Jas. Wilson.	"	" R. Brierley.
"	" J. W. Murton.	"	" Donald McPhie.
"	" J. J. Mason.	"	" James Lockie.
"	" F. R. Despard.	"	" Wm. Forbes.
"	" Wm. Reid.	E.	" Robt. Mackay.
"	" Wm. Brydon.	"	" John Creasor.
V. E.	" James Noble.	"	" I. P. Willson.
"	" F. Gallow.	"	" J. M. Dunn.
E.	" U. Boddy.	"	" Henry Fulford.
V. E.	" C. W. Brown.	"	" Jas. H. Benson.
E.	" Jas. Reynolds.	"	" Geo. Gott.
V. E.	" John Nettleton.	"	" Geo. Green.
"	" Jno. E. Harding	"	" P. A. Craig.
E.	" W.L.Tackaberry	V. E.	" Walter Chatfield.
E.	" Joseph Craig.		

A Constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in *Ample Form* at 10 a. m.

R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were seventy-six Chapters on the Roll of Grand Chapter, of which number 54 were represented by the following Companions:

No. 2. THE HIRAM CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

E. Comp.	Colin Munro,	Z.
R. E.	" Gavin Stewart,	P. Z.
"	" F. R. Despard,	P. Z.
"	" J. M. Meakins,	P. Z.
"	" Wm. Reid,	P. Z.

No. 4. ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN CHAPTER, TORONTO.

E. Comp.	Geo. Hodgetts,	Z.
E.	" Wm. Simpson,	H.

E. Comp.	Ulysses Boddy,	P. Z.
V. E.	" C. W. Brown,	P. Z.
R. E.	" Wm. Brydon,	P. Z.

No. 5. ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

E. Comp.	John Overell,	Z.
E.	" T. Brock,	H.
E.	" A. Ellis,	J.
R. E.	" Wm. Carey,	P. Z.
"	" A. G. Smyth,	P. Z.

No. 6. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

E. Comp.	W. G. Reid,	Z.
E.	" John Malloy,	H.
E.	" J. A. Malcolm,	J.
R. E.	" David McLellan,	P. Z.
"	" Wm. Forbes,	P. Z.
"	" Richard Brierley,	P. Z.
"	" John W. Murton,	P. Z.
"	" Donald McPhie,	P. Z.
"	" J. J. Mason,	P. Z.

No. 7. MOIRA CHAPTER, BELLEVILLE.

R. E. Comp.	James Smith,	Z.
E.	" W. A. Hamilton,	H.
M. E.	" L. H. Henderson,	P. Z.

No. 8. KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, TORONTO.

R. E. Comp.	J. Ross Robertson,	Z.
"	" David McLellan,	P. Z.
"	" Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
"	" Jas. B. Nixon,	P. Z.
M. E.	" Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

No. 11. ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, ST. ANDREW'S, N. B.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	P.Z., Proxy
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No. 12. CATARAQUI CHAPTER, KINGSTON,

R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, jr.,	P. Z.
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No. 16. CARLETON CHAPTER, OTTAWA.

E. Comp. John Walsh,	Z.
E. " J. C. Kearns,	H.
R. E. " John Moore,	P. Z.
" " W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	P. Z.

No. 18. OXFORD CHAPTER, WOODSTOCK.

R. E. Comp. C. L. Beard,	P. Z.
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No. 19. MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, ST. CATHARINES.

R. E. Comp. John W. Coy,	Z.
V. E. " Walter Chatfield,	P. Z.
R. E. " Geo. Walker,	P. Z.
M. E. " Jas. Seymour,	P. Z.

No. 22. GRENVILLE CHAPTER, PRESCOTT.

E. Comp. J. H. Kenning,	Z.
E. " Jas. Reynolds,	P. Z.

No. 23. EZRA CHAPTER, SIMCOE.

E. Comp. Robert Rochester,	Z.
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No. 24. TECUMSEH CHAPTER, STRATFORD.

R. E. Comp. James Lockie,	P. Z., Proxy
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No. 27. MANITOU CHAPTER, COLLINGWOOD.

V. E. Comp. F. B. Gregory,	Z.
R. E. " Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.
" " Henry Robertson,	P. Z.
" " John Nettleton,	P. Z.

No. 29. M'CALLUM CHAPTER, DUNNVILLE.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour, P. Z.

No. 30. HURON CHAPTER, GODERICH.

E. Comp. Richard Radcliffe, H.
R.E. " I. F. Toms, P. Z.

No. 31. PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, PICTON.

M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. Z.
R.E. " Wm. Lawson, P. Z.

No. 32. WATERLOO CHAPTER, GALT.

E. Comp. Isidore E. Eby, Z.
V. E. " Alfred Taylor, P. Z.

No. 33. SIGNET CHAPTER, BARRIE.

E. Comp. Robert King, H.
M.E. " Daniel Spry, P. Z.

No. 34. CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, PETERBORO'.

R. E. Comp. E. H. D. Hall, P. Z.

No. 37. VICTORIA CHAPTER, PORT HOPE.

E. Comp. J. B. Trayes, Z.
R.E. " Chas. Doebler, P. Z.

No. 38. SEYMOUR CHAPTER, BRADFORD.

E. Comp. H. S. Broughton, P. Z.

No. 40. GUELPH CHAPTER, GUELPH.

E. Comp. John Scoon, Z.
V. E. " David Kennedy, P. Z.
R. E. " H. K. Maitland, P. Z.

No. 44. MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, NAPANEE.

R. E. Comp. Donald Ross,	P. Z.
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No. 46. ST. JAMES' CHAPTER, ST. MARY'S.

V. E. Comp. John E. Harding,	P. Z.
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No. 47. WELLINGTON CHAPTER, CHATHAM.

E. Comp. W. L. Tackaberry,	Z.
E. " Wm. H. Sparling	P. H.
E. " W. H. Ballard,	P. J.
R. E. " Thomas C. Macnabb,	P. Z.
M. E. " James Seymour,	P. Z.

No. 48. ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, COBOURG.

E. Comp. J. B. Traves,	Z., Proxy.
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No. 50. SAUGEEN CHAPTER, WALKERTON.

E. Comp. Joseph Craig,	P. Z.
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No. 52. PRINCE RUPERT'S CHAPTER, WINNIPEG.

R. E. Comp. John W. Murton,	P.Z., Proxy
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No. 54. PALESTINE CHAPTER, ST. THOMAS.

E. Comp. Robert Mackay,	P. Z.
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No. 55. NIAGARA CHAPTER, NIAGARA.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,	P. Z.
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No. 56. GEORGIAN CHAPTER, OWEN SOUND.

E. Comp. Robert Edgar,	J.
E. " John Creasor,	P. Z.
R. E. " Henry Macpherson,	P. Z.

No. 57. KING HIRAM CHAPTER, PORT COLBORNE.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,	P. Z.
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No. 60. DORIC CHAPTER, NEWMARKET.

E. Comp.	J. H. Widdifield,	Z.
E. "	R. M. Cooper,	H.

No. 61. GRANITE CHAPTER, PERTH.

R. E. Comp.	John Moore,	P.Z., Proxy
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No. 62. YORK CHAPTER, EGLINGTON.

R. E. Comp.	Thos. Sargant,	P. Z.
"	"	J. B. Nixon,
"	"	P. Z.
M. E.	Daniel Spry,	P. Z.

No. 64. WILLSON CHAPTER, WELLAND.

E. Comp.	M. W. Bridgman,	H.
E. "	I. P. Willson,	P. Z.
E. "	J. M. Dunn,	P. Z.
M. E.	Jas. Seymour,	P. Z.

No. 65. ONTARIO CHAPTER, YORKVILLE.

E. Comp.	John G. Robinson,	Z.
E. "	Wm. S. Robinson,	H.
E. "	Wm. Lowrey,	J.
V. E.	C. W. Brown,	P. Z.
E. "	Hy. Fulford,	P. Z.

No. 66. SEAFORTH CHAPTER, SEAFORTH.

E. Comp.	James H. Benson,	P. Z.
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No. 67. ENTERPRISE CHAPTER, HARRISTON.

R. E. Comp.	John McLaren,	P. Z.
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No. 68. MAITLAND CHAPTER, MAITLAND.

R. E. Comp.	John Moore,	Z.
E. "	S. Martel Davies,	J.

No. 69. GRIMSBY CHAPTER, GRIMSBY.

R. E. Comp.	Wm. Forbes,	Z.
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No. 70. GRAND RIVER CHAPTER, BERLIN.

R. E. Comp. Jas. Lockie,	P. Z.
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No. 71. PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, AMHERSTBURG.

E. Comp. George Gott,	Z.
E. " George Green,	P. Z.

No. 74. BEAVER CHAPTER, STRATHROY.

V. E. Comp. James Noble,	P. Z.
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No. 76. MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER, DRUMMONDVILLE.

M. E. Comp. James Seymour,	P. Z.
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No. 77. OCCIDENT CHAPTER, TORONTO.

E. Comp. W. Walker,	Z.
R. E. " Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
" " James Wilson,	P. Z.

No. 79. ORIENT CHAPTER, TORONTO.

V. E. Comp. F. Gallow,	Z.
E. " John Kerr Brydon,	H.
R. E. " Thos. Sargent,	P. Z.
" " James B. Nixon,	P. Z.

No. 80. ARK CHAPTER, WINDSOR.

E. Comp. P. A. Craig,	P. Z.
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No. 82. SHUNIAH CHAPTER, P. A. LANDING.

R. E. Comp. I. F. Toms,	P.Z., Proxy
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No. 83. IONIC CHAPTER, ORANGEVILLE.

R. E. Comp. John McLaren,	P.Z., Proxy
" " Thomas Sargent,	P. Z.
" " James Wilson,	P. Z.

No. 84. LEBANON CHAPTER, WINGHAM.

E. Comp.	W. T. Bray,	H.
R. E.	" J. E. Tamlyn,	P. Z.

No. 85. EXETER CHAPTER, EXETER.

E. Comp.	Wm. Matheson,	Z.
E.	" W. D. Bright,	H.

No. 87. WENTWORTH CHAPTER, DUNDAS.

E. Comp.	Thomas Clark,	Z.
E.	" H. C. Gwyn,	H.
E.	" H. Bickford,	J.
R. E.	" J. M. Meakins,	P. Z.
"	" David McLellan,	P. Z.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. HENDRY, JR.,	} Committee.
F. GALLOW,	
W. G. REID,	

On motion of R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, Jr., seconded by V. E. Comp. F. Gallow, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business.

The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the twenty-third Annual Convocation, held in the city of Guelph, on the 16th day of July, A. D. 1880, A. I. 2410, when it was moved by M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, and resolved:—

That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 16th day of July, have been printed, and copies

thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

GREETING :

COMPANIONS,—Another year has passed away, and, under the protecting care of the Supreme Being, we are again permitted to meet in this the twenty-fourth Annual Convocation, for the transaction of such business as the interests of the Royal Craft may demand. I am gratified to be in a position to report the continued prosperity of Capitular Masonry, and the absence of any unpleasantness in connection with our affairs. So far as I have been able to learn, all our Chapters continue to prosper, and the utmost good-will prevails among the Companions.

As we are now assembled in the city where, on the 20th of January, 1857, this Grand Chapter was duly established, it may not be out of place to make some remarks in reference to that important event. At the Convention held on the 19th January, 1857, there were present but eight Companions, viz: Comps. Kivas Tully, St. John's Chapter, Toronto; Thomas Duggan, Chas. Magill and John Harris, of Hiram Chapter, Hamilton; Thomas B. Harris, of St. John's, Hamilton; and W. C. Stephens, Richard Bull and Wm. Mercer Wilson. And on the following day—when the Grand Chapter was duly formed by the representatives of Hiram and St. John's Chapters, Hamilton, and St. John's Chapter, London, there were present, in addition to those above named, Comps. Thomas Francis, Joseph F. Rolfe, Wm. Daniel, James Riddell, James M. Rogerson (now of Toronto,) Henry Guest, — Mills, and — Harley—in all, sixteen Companions. Of this number, who twenty-four years ago

did so much to be remembered with gratitude and respect by the Grand Chapter, four of the most prominent are dead; and only one or two of those who are living take any active interest now in Masonic matters. The progress which the city of Hamilton has made during the past twenty-four years may well be esteemed a source of pride by the many enterprising citizens who have aided in placing it in the proud position which it occupies, of being one of the principal centres of the commercial, manufacturing and many other useful interests and industries of our great Dominion; while the Masonic fraternity have every reason to be gratified with the success which has attended their efforts in making Hamilton the great centre of Masonry for the Province of Ontario. The magnificent hall in which we are assembled is a practical proof of their devotion to the fraternity, and an evidence of their ability to rear a monument in its honor that will endure for ages to come, and point out to those who will be Companions of the Order in the far distant future the munificent generosity that flowed from the hands that carried out the design of so elegant a structure.

In the midst of our congratulations we are reminded of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and are called upon to mourn the departure of some of those who were near and dear to us. On the 28th day of March last, R. Ex. Comp. W. H. Weller, Past Grand Master of Grand Lodge, and Past Grand H. of this Grand Chapter, died at Cobourg after a short illness. Our distinguished brother was initiated into Masonry in St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, during the year 1846, and was exalted in Ionic Chapter, E. R., on the 10th May, 1848, and very soon took an active interest in matters pertaining to Freemasonry. As a citizen he was highly esteemed, as evinced by the positions of trust which he occupied, and as a Freemason he enjoyed the good will of all who knew him. His genial good nature, and quiet, unobtrusive manner, rendered him so exceedingly popular that his absence will be generally felt. We have also

to mourn the departure of M. Ex. Comp. Jas. Kimball, who was our representative near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. Companion Kimball was well known as a zealous and earnest Mason, and one of the earnest workers in Freemasonry. We extend to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts our warmest sympathy.

During the year no new Chapters have been established. This is a cause for congratulation, as, for the present, there are sufficient Chapters for all practical purposes; and to decline to issue any more dispensations for opening new Chapters—unless in localities where there are several Lodges in the surrounding district—will be highly beneficial to the working of the present Chapters.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

Notwithstanding the well-known views of Grand Chapter against granting Dispensations to permit Companions to be installed as Principals without having previously served in the offices which the Constitution requires, I have had to issue the following, which are three less than were issued last year:—

To instal as Z., not having served as W. M.	-	4
“ Z. “ “ H.	-	3
“ H. “ “ J.	- -	3

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

The action of Grand Chapter in adopting an authorized Ritual for the several Degrees, has had a beneficial effect. The officers of Chapters have availed themselves of every opportunity for obtaining proper instruction, and as a result, there is much greater uniformity and more zeal displayed in working the several Degrees.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Although my time has been so much occupied that I could

not devote a great portion of it to Freemasonry, I have, as occasion offered, officially visited the following Chapters:—

The Hiram, No. 2,	-	-	Hamilton.
St. Johns, No. 6,	-	-	Hamilton.
Signet, No. 34,	-	-	Barrie.
Victoria, No. 37,	-	-	Port Hope.
Georgian, No. 56,	-	-	Owen Sound.
Orient, No. 79,	-	-	Toronto.

On each of these occasions some of the officers of Grand Chapter accompanied me, and our reception was of a most hearty character.

REPRESENTATIVES.

During the year the following appointments have been made, of Representatives near this Grand Chapter:—

Vermont, R. Ex. Comp. James B. Nixon, to fill the vacancy caused by resignation.

Illinois, R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Forbes, Grimsby; Nebraska, R. Ex. Comp. John Ross Robertson, Toronto; Ohio, R. Ex. Comp. Hugh A. Mackay, Hamilton; to fill vacancies caused by the absence for several years from the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter of the Companions who were the Representatives of these Grand Chapters.

Wisconsin, R. Ex. Comp. J. M. Meakins, Hamilton, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of R. Ex. Comp. W. H. Weller.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.

The committee appointed to revise the Constitution has completed its labors, and as the members of Grand Chapter and Subordinate Chapters have been supplied with advance copies for their consideration, I trust that we shall be enabled to settle this important matter finally and intelligently during the present session.

FINANCES.

The receipts for the past year have been \$2,035.63, and the expenditure \$1,568.54, leaving a surplus of \$467.09. This gratifying increase in our receipts has entailed considerable additional labor upon the Grand Scribe E.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

It is again a pleasure to me to speak of the energy and perseverance of our worthy Grand Scribe, who so faithfully discharges the duties of his office.

As I now desire to surrender to my successor the sceptre, which, owing to your unvarying kindness, I have held for two years, I wish to thank you for the cordial support and generous courtesies accorded to me in the discharge of my official duties.

DANIEL SPRY.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and resolved:—

That the address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee, to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented:—

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Principals and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada:

I take much pleasure in submitting my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the London District for the past Masonic year:

On the 22nd of December, 1880, I installed the officers of St. John's, No. 3, and am pleased to state that this Chapter

is in a flourishing condition, as will be seen by the returns to Grand Scribe E. for the past year.

The same evening, at an Emergency Meeting of St. George's, No. 5, I installed their officers, and I am pleased to state that the officers of Nos. 3 and 5 Chapters are composed of the best workers in Royal Arch Masonry.

Wawanosh Chapter, No. 15, Sarnia, is in a very satisfactory condition. I received a letter from this Chapter, requesting dispensation to install Companion Chester as Z., he having served as H. and J., but not as Worshipful Master, which letter I forwarded to the Most Excellent the Grand Z., with recommendations for the same. On receipt of the letter, the Most Excellent the Grand Z. in his wisdom granted the dispensation for the benefit of Wawanosh Chapter and Royal Arch Masonry in that locality.

I am also pleased to state that Minnewawa, No. 78, Parkhill, is prosperous; also Beaver, No. 74, Strathroy, shows an increase in membership the past year.

I received a letter from Grand Scribe E., requesting me to have the following Chapters forward their returns, namely: Wellington, No. 47; Bruce, No. 53; Palestine, No. 54, and Aylmer, No. 81. I wrote to Scribe E. of each Chapter, but received no answer, and am unable to state whether Grand Scribe E. received the returns. Erie, No. 73, Port Stanley, I could get no information from any one there, so I wrote to Excellent Companion McCall, now of St. Thomas, but received no reply.

It is gratifying to the Royal Craft to state that I have not received any complaints during the year, and I feel satisfied that peace and harmony exist among the Companions of this District.

In conclusion, I sincerely thank the Companions of the

London District for the honor conferred, and regret I could not visit all the Chapters in the District.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. HAWTHORN,

Grand Superintendent London District.

LONDON, June 28th, 1881.

WILSON DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :*

In submitting the annual report of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Wilson District, I regret to say that my expectations in reference to Ezra Chapter, No. 23, Simcoe, as expressed in my last report, have not been realized. Early in June last I wrote asking the Chapter to name a day when it would be convenient for them to receive me, and I was informed in reply that no meeting had been held during the past year. I received a somewhat similar reply from Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 20, Brantford. My visit to these Chapters was, therefore, indefinitely postponed. Up to the time of my enquiries no returns had been made to Grand Chapter from either of these Chapters, but I was assured that an effort would be made to do so before the meeting of Grand Chapter. I trust that this has been done.

The two other Chapters in the District, viz., Oxford Chapter, No. 18, Woodstock; and Harris Chapter, No. 41, Ingersoll; continue to work, and are in a fairly satisfactory condition.

No complaints have been laid before me during the past year.

In closing my report I regret to say that I have not had sufficient time at my disposal to perform the duties of the

office entrusted to me with satisfaction to myself, or that its importance demands as the success of the Order, to my mind, depends greatly on the thoroughness with which the Grand Superintendents of the several Districts perform their duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES BEARD,

Grand Superintendent Wilson District.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I beg to present my report of the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Wellington District for the past year.

Owing to change of residence and business, I have been unable to visit all the Chapters in the District, but from correspondence with the Principals and others interested in the work, I have been enabled to ascertain the nature of the progress made during the year, and the prospects for the immediate future. I am pleased to report that all the Chapters in the District have completed their returns to Grand Chapter, and that all are clear upon the books, with no arrearages against them. In one or two instances (notably in that of Guelph Chapter) healthy advancement has been made during the year, and a most hopeful promise exists for continued good work. Four Chapters show progress of a less marked character, but with encouraging indications that an era of prosperity has been entered upon. From only one Chapter comes the report that it is in a weak condition; that there is a lack of interest in the proceedings and a difficulty in holding meetings.

The introduction of the "work" exemplified at last Convocation of Grand Chapter has had a most beneficial effect, and the results will be even more gratifying when the officers and Companions become more familiar with the new system.

At my request, and at the solicitation of the Companions of Waterloo Chapter, Galt, a dispensation was issued for the installation of the Second Principal as First Principal of the Chapter, he not having served as the Worshipful Master of a Lodge. I have reason to believe that the exercise of the dispensing power has been duly appreciated by the Companions of the Chapter, and will result advantageously.

Some correspondence was had in relation to proposed proceedings against Companion Thomas Pinkerton, of Saugeen Chapter, No. 50, for taking part in the organization of a Lodge of clandestine Masons. In pursuance of a recommendation to that effect, a charge was preferred against the Companion in the Lodge of which he was a member, and on the evidence submitted he was suspended from membership and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. The expulsion was decreed at the session of the Grand Lodge just held, and as a consequence the Companion has been deprived of all his Masonic privileges.

Other subjects of minor importance have given rise to correspondence with the Chapters in the District, all of which have received due attention.

In resigning my charge, I have to make due acknowledgment for the courteous treatment extended to me at all times by the officers and Companions with whom I have had official intercourse. I have specially to bear testimony to the promptitude, care and efficiency shown in the discharge of his duties by R. E. Comp. McLellan, the Grand Scribe E. Grand Chapter is to be congratulated on having secured the services of so capable an officer.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN McLAREN,

Grand Superintendent Wellington District.

ORANGEVILLE, July 15th, 1881.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Excellent Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and in the discharge of the duty devolving upon me as Grand Superintendent, I have the honor to submit this, my annual report, of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Hamilton District.

I have visited all the Chapters in the District, and am pleased to be able to state that the utmost harmony prevails throughout the whole of this District.

At the Regular Convocation of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, held on the 12th of May, at which meeting we were honored with the presence of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, who expressed himself as highly pleased with the manner in which the work was performed by the officers of the Hiram and St. John's Chapters.

I cannot close my report without expressing my warmest thanks to the officers and Companions of the Hamilton District for their uniform kindness to me during the year I have had the pleasure of presiding over them as Grand Superintendent, and I pray that it may please the G. A. O. T. U. long to continue that harmony which now prevails among the Companions of the Hamilton District.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GAVIN STEWART,

Grand Superintendent Hamilton District.

HAMILTON, July 11th, 1881.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Principals, and Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In presenting this my seventh report as Grand Superin-

tendent of the Huron District, I am sorry to say that Royal Arch Masonry in some parts of the District is not in as prosperous a condition as I could wish; but I am led to believe that during the coming year matters will assume a different shape.

TECUMSEH CHAPTER, NO. 24, STRATFORD.

This, the oldest Chapter in the District, is in a prosperous condition; good work has been done during the past year.

HURON CHAPTER, NO. 30, GODERICH.

This Chapter is, and has been since its institution in 1867, in a prosperous condition. Its finances are healthy, the meetings are well attended, and there is always a sufficient amount of work to keep the officers well up in the ritual.

ST. JAMES' CHAPTER, NO. 46, ST. MARY'S.

This Chapter has been practically dormant for a number of years, and I cannot obtain any satisfactory reason for the default. My own opinion is that it is the result of sheer carelessness. I would, however, recommend Grand Chapter to give this Chapter another year's grace.

HAVELOCK CHAPTER, NO. 63, LUCKNOW.

This Chapter is also practically dormant. When it was established, it was the centre of a good Masonic section. The railways have destroyed the position, and I am of opinion that a Chapter cannot be sustained in Lucknow. A move is on foot to remove the Chapter to the Town of Kincardine. I highly approve of this, and believe it will be satisfactorily accomplished during the coming year.

SEAFORTH CHAPTER, NO. 66, SEAFORTH.

No work has been done in this Chapter for two years. A removal to Clinton has been suggested, and the propriety of this course is now under consideration.

SHUNIAH CHAPTER, NO. 82, PRINCE ARTHUR'S LANDING.

I have very favorable reports from this Chapter, which is still under the excellent charge of V. E. Comp. S. N. Ray. I granted them a dispensation to appear in Royal Arch clothing on the festival of St. John the Evangelist.

LEBANON CHAPTER, NO. 84, WINGHAM.

I cannot speak too highly of this Chapter. It has an excellent position as a Masonic centre, and since its institution has been under the charge of that able officer, R. E. Comp. J. E. Tamlyn, Grand Principal Sojourner.

EXETER CHAPTER, NO. 85, EXETER.

This, the youngest Chapter in the District, is progressing in a healthy manner, and has, in my view, a bright future before it.

During the year I installed the officers of Huron Chapter, No. 30, Lebanon Chapter, No. 84, and Exeter Chapter, No. 85.

No Masonic complaints were referred to me, from which I gather that peace and harmony prevail, and so may it continue.

Fraternally submitted.

ISAAC F. TOMS,
Grand Superintendent Huron District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and Officers of Grand Chapter of Canada:

MOST EXCELLENT SIR AND COMPANIONS,—In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I beg to present this, my report, as Grand District Superintendent of the Niagara District.

There are included in this Masonic District seven Royal Arch Chapters. Of these I have had the pleasure of visiting four (and these the four principal ones), the remaining three owing to my removal to the neighboring Republic, and consequent frequent absence from the District, I have unfortunately been unable to attend to in the way of District visitation, on the occasion of their regular Convocations, but have by diligent enquiry learned as far as possible of their affairs, and have given them all the attention it has been in my power to give.

I commenced my official tour by visiting King Hiram Chapter, No. 57, Port Colborne, on the evening of Thursday, 2nd December, 1880, and found the affairs of that Chapter in a very fair condition, and have no doubt whatever but that under the able guidance and administration of R. E. Comp. Dr. Neff, P. G. D. Superintendent, it has a bright and prosperous future before it.

On the evening of Friday, 17th December, 1880, I visited M'Callum Chapter, No. 29, Dunnville, and although the amount of work done by that Chapter during the six months previous had not been as great as I would have liked to see, still the great zeal and enthusiasm visible among the Companions and the presence of several talented and distinguished members of Grand Chapter, such as R. E. Comp. Braun, V. E. Comp. Parry, E. Comp. Nimmo, and others, convinced me that this Chapter was in good hands, and seemed to me to be a sufficient guarantee of its future prosperity.

On Wednesday, 25th May, 1881, I visited Willson Chapter, No. 64, Welland. I am happy to say that this Chapter, though recently in arrears for dues, is at present "square" in the books of Grand Chapter, and in its function and appointments is equal to any other in this District. It is increasing rapidly in importance and membership, and under the fostering care of V. E. Comp. I. P. Willson, E. Comps.

Dunn, Burgar, and several worthy and well known Companions, promises fairly to appear in the front rank among the Chapters of this District. I did not have the pleasure of witnessing any work on the occasion of my visit, but am satisfied from what I know of the ability of the officers of this Chapter (many of whom are members of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19), that the work, when on hand, would be well and satisfactorily performed.

I drove to Niagara during the month of May and interviewed personally the First Principal of Niagara Chapter, No. 55, who informs me that on account of the very extensive repairs going on at their Chapter and Lodge room during the past six months they had been unable to hold a Convocation, but that they were in hope of securing possession on or about 1st July, after which time their meetings would be regularly held, and they will have an abundance of work to perform.

With regard to Mount Nebo Chapter, No. 76, Drummondville, the amount of work done by them during the past year has been somewhat meagre, and owing to the very limited attendance on their nights of meeting, they have not been able to hold their Convocations regularly. This Chapter, although financially sound, requires a helping hand from its stronger neighbors, and I sincerely trust it will be extended cordially during the coming year.

Of Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby, it is almost unnecessary for me to speak, feeling satisfied that under the able and energetic administration of R. E. Comp. Forbes, P. G. S. N., it was in very good hands, and being unable to visit all the Chapters in the District, from causes already explained, I have failed to pay an official visit to this Chapter, for which I tender my sincere apologies to R. E. Comp. Forbes and the Companions. That I have not been able to spend an evening with the Grimsby Companions has been to me a cause of sincere regret; yet I am satis-

fied the visit was not actually needed by them, for having R. E. Comp. Forbes "ever with them," they are in a position not to require any instruction, information or examination at my hands.

As I have the honor to hold the position of First Principal of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines, I can both personally and officially vouch for the position of that body, and at the risk of being considered egotistical, will say that Mount Moriah Chapter can still hold good her position in the front rank of the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada. Financially (thanks to the fostering care of M. E. Comp. James Seymour, who has been its Treasurer for a succession of years), she is on a very flourishing basis, while with regard to quantity and quality of "work" done during the past year, she will, I am satisfied, compare favorably with any Chapter in Canada in a city of similar size to St. Catharines. With such names on her Muster-roll as M. E. Comp. Jas. Seymour, and R. E. Comps. Goodman, Struthers, Carlisle and Walker, she ever hopes to flourish and go on as she has done, sending out branches throughout the whole of the Niagara District, and ever ready to lend not only advice, but assistance to any of her children, whenever requested so to do.

The adoption of a uniform ritual by Grand Chapter has given the very liveliest satisfaction to the Subordinate Chapters through my jurisdiction, and has gone far to cement yet more firmly the close ties already existing between them.

The calling together of Grand Chapter during the same week as the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, is another source of deep congratulation, securing as it does a far more thorough and correct representation, and ensuring the attendance, without additional expense or loss of time, of many prominent brethren of the subordinate body, who otherwise might find themselves unable to be present.

In concluding my report, Most Excellent Sir, permit me

to return my sincere thanks to yourself and the Grand Scribe E. for prompt and ready replies to questions asked, and kindly consideration in all our transactions, and to the officers and companions of the various Chapters under my jurisdiction for the kind and courteous treatment I have ever experienced at their hands, which I shall always bear in grateful remembrance wherever my lot in life may be cast, and let me ask as a still further favor from these companions that the same kindly treatment be extended to the worthy and distinguished companion who may succeed to the office now held by me, at the same time expressing the hope that his pursuits in life may be of such a nature as to permit him to perform more thoroughly and efficiently the duties of that position, which, owing to circumstances entirely beyond my control, I have been unable to perform, as otherwise I most certainly should have done.

May the Great Jehovah ever prosper and sustain the cause of Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District, in the whole Dominion of Canada, and throughout the Universe.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN W. COY,

Grand District Superintendent Niagara District.

ST. CATHARINES, June 30th, 1881.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In presenting my second report, I regret my inability to express satisfaction at the condition of the Royal Craft in Ontario District. This does not arise in consequence of a lack of good material, but rather through a want of life and energy existing among the officers and members of our Chapters. In most instances, the attendance is small and the work poorly done.

The cause of this state of affairs I fail to understand, unless it is that our Chapters are too numerous, which necessarily lessens the membership; and, as in small places, the field is a very limited one, the majority reside at a distance from the place of meeting.

In my humble judgment it would greatly conduce to the benefit of the Order, if more care were taken in granting charters, for if we had fewer and stronger Chapters, there would be better meetings, and they would be more efficiently worked. It must be very dispiriting for Principals of Chapters, after spending their time in getting up their work, to attend meeting after meeting and find barely enough members present to form a quorum, and even more so, when, as happens too frequently, there is not enough to do that. I am afraid too many do not feel sufficient interest in the repetition of our beautiful ritual. There is not sufficient excitement in our impressive ceremonies for them, and they prefer devoting their time elsewhere than at the Chapter meetings. This class of members (and they are by far too numerous) take the degrees, attend a few meetings, and then drop off. I think Grand Chapter would do well to give this subject consideration, with the view of suggesting some plan by which our meetings could be made more interesting and attractive. One important feature which must be considered in connection with this matter is the number of different branches of Masonry, almost all of which are too numerous in country places, and they detract from the strength and usefulness of each other.

Victoria Chapter, Port Hope, and Corinthian Chapter, Peterborough, are in a flourishing condition, both containing able workers, and financially doing well. I had the pleasure of installing the officers of the first named, and also those of Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa, and Excelsior Chapter, Colborne.

I am glad to say that St. John's Chapter, Cobourg, is

brushing up in a satisfactory manner, new blood going into it, which, I trust, with old efficient members, will place it where it should always be, in the front rank.

The correspondence has not been heavy, but some of it of a difficult nature, which I have done my best with, and as there has been no appeal from my rulings, I infer they gave satisfaction.

It affords me great pleasure to report that the greatest harmony prevails throughout the District, and that not a single case of Masonic complaint has been laid before me.

I have to express my warmest thanks to the Companions throughout the District for their courteous treatment of me on all occasions, and having visited all the Chapters, some of them several times, I have seen a great many of them, and from their general intelligence and ability, I feel assured it but requires an effort on their part to bring about a revival of interest in the Royal Craft.

I trust my successor may be able to report greater prosperity at the end of next year than I have been on this occasion.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. DOEBLER,

Grand Superintendent Ontario District

PORT HOPE, July 11th, 1881.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :*

In compliance with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I beg respectfully to submit my report on Royal Arch Masonry in the Prince Edward District for the past year.

The number of Chapters in this District is four, two of them are doing good work, namely, Moira Chapter, No. 7, has done well in the past, and has a good prospect for the time to come. This Chapter has a good staff of officers, and is very ably assisted by M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, P. G. Z. Prince Edward Chapter, No. 31, is also doing very well.

I have written E. Comp. Preston, Z. of Mount Sinai Chapter, with regard to making their returns to Grand Chapter, and they are now doing their very best, and hope to be able to accomplish their object, and I do hope they may be successful.

I find that the great drawback to Masonry is that officers, in taking office, do not remember their ob. in obeying summonses.

With regard to St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton, I have also written R. E. Comp. Delaney, asking him to make returns of their Chapter, but have received no answer as yet, but I hope that they have done so.

In conclusion, I sincerely thank the Companions of the Prince Edward District for the honor conferred.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SMITH,

Grand Superintendent Prince Edward District.

Belleville, July 9th, 1881.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In making my first report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in New Brunswick District, I am sorry to say that I cannot send to Grand Chapter a favorable report. When

my predecessor in office sent his report last year, he anticipated that a change would soon take place that would infuse new life into our inactive state, but such is not the case, the same unfortunate causes still exist, and I am greatly afraid that they will continue. Every Chapter in this District is in about the same state, "non-progressive."

It becomes my painful duty to report to Grand Chapter a charge made by New Brunswick Chapter against Companion John Melick, "for forgery." He has been suspended by the Chapter, with a recommendation to Grand Chapter that he be expelled from the Order. I have forwarded to the Grand Scribe E. all papers connected with the case.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY DUFFELL,

Grand Superintendent New Brunswick District.

St. John, N. B., June 27th, 1881.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Grand Officers and Companions
of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada :*

As required by the Constitution, I have the honor to submit my Report as Grand Superintendent of the Manitoba District.

There is at present only one Chapter, viz., Prince Rupert's, No. 52, in this District, and it affords me much pleasure to be able to report that it is in a most flourishing and prosperous condition. So large a number of applications for degrees have been received that it has been necessary to hold more Emergent Convocations than there are Regular. At nearly all of the Convocations I have been present, and can speak in the highest terms of the interest and efficiency of the various officers and of their regular attendance.

With the large increase of population, we can confidently look forward to the establishment of two or more new Chapters in this District in the near future.

I have the honor to be fraternally,

JOHN H. BELL,
Grand Superintendent Manitoba District.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent Grand First Principal Z., Officers and
Members of Grand Chapter.*

I have much pleasure in complying with the requirements of the Constitution, in submitting my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Toronto District for 1880 and 1881.

I have to report that harmony prevails all over the District. There have been no differences referred to me for adjudication. The Royal Craft has never been more prosperous or popular. The Chapters are in the hands of zealous, intelligent, and active officers, who strictly attend to the interests of the Body, and, as a consequence, the Chapters are successful financially and numerically. I have been everywhere received with the utmost cordiality and good-feeling.

I visited the Chapter of St. Andrew and St. John, No. 4, at their Annual Convocation, and installed their officers. Some of the oldest Companions in the city were present, out of respect to the 1st Principal, an Ex. Companion who has the confidence and esteem of his Brethren. This Chapter bids fair to have a prosperous year.

At the Annual Convocation of King Solomon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 8, I was present officially, and installed their officers. The Companions adjourned to the National Club to partake of the annual banquet, where a most enjoyable

evening was spent. This Chapter is in a prosperous condition, and may be justly termed the Banner Chapter. It is now self-sustaining from revenue from funds invested and from annual dues. Its energetic and untiring 1st Principal, R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, was called to Europe for a few months; R. E. Comp. Sargant had control of the Chapter during his absence, so that Chapter did not suffer.

On Good Friday I paid an official visit to Seymour Chapter, No. 38, Bradford, accompanied by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, P. G. S.; V. E. Comp. F. Gallow, G. A. S., and other companions from the city. The Chapter had a day's work to perform in conferring Subordinate Degrees and Exaltation.

I have here to testify to the excellency of the work performed by R. E. Comp. Porter, the Ex. Z. of this Chapter. Seldom has it been our privilege to witness degrees more correctly or impressively communicated. The officers of this Chapter deserve the highest praise for the manner in which their various duties were discharged. They entertained their visitors in their usual princely way.

I also visited officially York Chapter, No. 62, on the night of their Regular Convocation in May. This Chapter is composed of companions who have done much for Royal Arch Masonry. I was pleased to see the truly Masonic spirit evinced by the companions on this occasion. I was accompanied by V. E. Comp. Gallow, G. A. S.

Ontario Chapter, No. 65. I accompanied M. E. Comp. D. Spry, G. Z., on a visit to this Chapter at their Annual Convocation, and assisted him to instal the officers. This Chapter is in a prosperous condition and has able and efficient officers.

I paid an official visit to Occident Chapter, No. 77, on the night of their Annual Convocation and installed their officers. This Chapter is a most successful one and has a bright future before it.

Orient Chapter, No. 79. I had the pleasure of officially visiting this Chapter twice during the year. My first visit was at the installation of officers in January, which ceremony I performed, assisted by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, P. G. S., after which the companions adjourned to partake of the Annual Banquet, where we spent a very enjoyable time. Orient Chapter has made rapid progress. Its Excellent 1st Principal, F. Gallow, has been unwearied in his efforts to promote the welfare of his Chapter; he has been ably assisted by the officers and companions. They have succeeded beyond their most sanguine expectations.

In conclusion, I would apologize to those Chapters who were promised a visit, but so many other Masonic duties pressing upon me, rendered it impossible. I am acquainted with the position of the Chapters in this District, and their condition in almost all cases is satisfactory.

J. G. BURNS,

Grand Superintendent Toronto District.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

*To the Most Excellent the Grand Council, Officers and Companions
of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :*

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I beg to submit the following Report of the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Central District.

There are eight Chapters situate in this district, and I shall notice them *seriatim*, according to their seniority, and in the briefest manner.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC, NO. 1, KINGSTON.

This Chapter, although not doing very much work, is in a prosperous condition, and ably presided over by a Companion well known for his zeal and long-continued fidelity to our fraternity; and I regret circumstances did not permit me to

pay an official visit to "Ancient Frontenac Chapter" during the term of my office. From information received, I am pleased to know that the records, &c., of this Chapter are in a satisfactory condition.

CATARAQUI, NO. 12, KINGSTON.

Being unable to visit this Chapter, I am indebted to Rt. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, Jr., for valuable information as to the condition of "Cataraqui Chapter," and I am glad to learn that considerable work has been done during the past year; that it is in a prosperous state, and that its records, &c., are neatly and correctly kept. I hope the Kingston Companions will overlook my seeming neglect in not visiting them, and should I ever have an opportunity to do so, I assure them I will avail myself of it.

CARLETON, NO. 16, OTTAWA.

I have much pleasure in testifying to the highly satisfactory state of this Chapter, brought about by its present First Principal, ably assisted by two or three other zealous Companions. This is the more pleasing as the Chapter has been on the decline for the past three or four years. On the 10th of January last I invested and installed the officers of the Chapter in accordance with the prescribed form, the First and Second Principals by special dispensation, they not having previously filled the subordinate chairs. Certain brethren, residents within the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, made application for advancement and exaltation in this Chapter during the year, and it affords me pleasure to report that the said Grand Chapter readily complied with my request to have the degrees conferred on the petitioners. During the month of October last the Chapter sustained a loss by the removal of R. E. Comp. Wm. M. Somerville to Florida to reside for the benefit of his health, and the Chapter, as a token of its esteem and good-will, presented him with a very handsome gold jewel of a Past Z., and a series of resolutions suitably engrossed. I

have examined the records of this Chapter and have to report that they are well kept. Ere long I trust that "Carleton Chapter" will be second to none on the Registry of the Grand Chapter.

GRENVILLE, NO. 22, PRESCOTT.

This Chapter, after having been dormant for a couple of years, has again fallen into line and seems determined to shake off its apathy. This is due to the energy of its First Principal, and it is gratifying to know his efforts have been most successful. On the 25th of April last I had the pleasure of assisting in conferring the degrees on seven brethren in this Chapter. The work was very well done by the First Principal, assisted by E. Comps. Jas. Reynolds and John Easton, both of Brockville. I again visited this Chapter on the 9th of June, and must say that it is making good progress. "Grenville Chapter," I hope, has a good future before it, and unless I am much mistaken, will be equal to any Chapter in the District very soon.

PEMBROKE, NO. 58, PEMBROKE.

I regret that the hope I expressed in Grand Chapter last year, on behalf of this Chapter, has not been realized, and that a serious calamity has befallen them, as they have lost everything they possessed by the fire that occurred on the 25th December last, when the Masonic Hall was burned down. I have had some correspondence lately with Companions of this Chapter, the result of which at this date I cannot foresee. My successor in office may be more fortunate than I, and I hope to see "Pembroke Chapter" flourishing at no distant day, as there is a wide field to labor in.

SUSSEX, NO. 59, BROCKVILLE.

This Chapter has not had any meetings for quite a long time past, and I regret to say that although I went to Brockville on four different occasions to endeavor to get the companions to come together, so far I have been unsuccessful.

ful, and I regret to report that a very unsatisfactory state of affairs exists among the Companions, and I sincerely hope that they will sink their differences and renew the work of the Chapter at an early date. "Sussex Chapter" should be one of the best in the District.

GRANITE, NO. 61, PERTH.

This Chapter, although not composed of great numbers, nor yet doing much work, progresses favorably, and I am led to believe that ere long considerable material will be added to its roll. "Granite Chapter" keeps its records very well, and its officers are doing their best, which at least is commendable.

MAITLAND, NO. 68, MAITLAND.

The youngest Chapter in the District, the last, but not the least, has been doing fairly well during the past year; its prospects are good. It will, I trust, be able to show a favorable record at the end of another year. During the early part of this year it adopted and printed under authority a first-class code of By-laws, with blank and minute forms, which older Chapters might profitably imitate. Its records have been clearly and neatly kept, and taken altogether "Maitland Chapter" will compare favorably with older established ones.

NEW CHAPTERS.

While it is not desirable to encourage the formation of new Chapters, still I am led to believe that a Chapter should be established at Cornwall, as there is ample material to draw from without injury to the one at Prescott; and as quite a number of the Companions of Grenville Chapter reside at Cornwall and places east of Prescott, I am in hope that a Chapter will be opened there at an early date. The same may be said in respect to L'Orignal or Hawkesbury, where an Irish Chapter, now dormant, has, it is said, existed for years past. I have had several conversations with Com-

panions from both these places who are anxious to promote the establishment of a Chapter down there. I commend this matter to my successor.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

I have pleasure in reporting that the Chapters generally are making efforts to perfect themselves in the work adopted by Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation. Good results will follow if persevered in.

* * * * * *

REVISED CONSTITUTION.

This work has been much wanted for some time past, as there are no copies in the office of the Grand Scribe E.; a new clause ought to be inserted in it, making it a law to have the Scribe E. of subordinate Chapters send a notice of every Regular and Emergent Convocation to the Superintendent of their respective Districts. I recommend this to Grand Chapter for their consideration.

RETURNS AND PAYMENTS

have been made by all the Chapters in the District, except Pembroke and Sussex, and generally the Chapters are in a prosperous financial state.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REGALIA.

It is over 13 years since the Regalia for Superintendent of this District was procured, and as it is in great need of renewal, I earnestly hope the various Chapters will contribute an equal amount, so that a new set can be procured for their District Officer without delay.

HARMONY AND CONCORD

exist throughout the Central District, as no complaints have been made to me during the year. I hope this may long continue.

IN CONCLUSION

I have to tender my sincere thanks to the Companions of Central District for many acts of kindness and courtesy shown me during my term of office.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MOORE,

Grand Superintendent Central District.

OTTAWA, 4th July, 1881.

On motion of R. E. Comp. Thos. C. Macnabb, seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Carey, the Reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts were received, and referred to the Executive Committee for examination and report thereon.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, on behalf of R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the Report of the Committee, which, on motion of M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, seconded by E. Comp. I. P. Willson, was received, and ordered to be printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., submitted the Annual Statement of moneys received during the past year, together with the books, etc. He also submitted the Annual Statement of R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, of receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached.

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JULY 1881.

DAVID McLELLAN, G. S. E., in Account with Grand Chapter.

No. 1—Ano't Frontenac...\$ 28 40	To Amount Forward..\$1,112 80
" 2—The Hiram..... 99 20	No. 53—Bruce.....\$ 16 40
" 3—St. John's..... 83 20	" 54—Palestine..... 54 30
" 4—St. Andrew and St. John..... 30 70	" 55—Niagara..... 4 20
" 5—St. George's..... 36 70	" 56—Georgian..... 16 50
" 6—St. John's..... 73 00	" 57—King Hiram..... 20 40
" 7—Moir..... 48 60	" 58—Pembroke..... 00 00
" 8—King Solomon's.. 54 00	" 59—Sussex..... 00 00
" 10—New Brunswick.. 71 20	" 60—Doric..... 16 50
" 11—St. Mark's..... 5 40	" 61—Granite..... 00 00
" 12—Cataraqui..... 27 00	" 62—York..... 24 90
" 15—Wawanosh..... 28 60	" 63—Havelock..... 00 00
" 16—Carleton..... 43 80	" 64—Willson..... 1 00
" 18—Oxford..... 16 40	" 65—Ontario..... 26 40
" 19—Mount Moriah... 28 60	" 66—Seaforth..... 00 00
" 20—Mount Horeb.... 11 00	" 67—Enterprise..... 32 80
" 22—Grenville..... 20 40	" 68—Maitland..... 18 10
" 23—Ezra..... 6 00	" 69—Grimsby..... 5 00
" 24—Tecumseh..... 12 80	" 70—Grand River..... 13 00
" 26—St. Mark's..... 1 00	" 71—Prince of Wales.. 10 80
" 27—Manitou..... 14 80	" 73—Eric..... 00 00
" 28—Pentalpha..... 10 40	" 74—Beaver..... 15 20
" 29—McCallum..... 20 00	" 75—St. Clair..... 22 30
" 30—Huron..... 33 60	" 76—Mount Nebo..... 11 60
" 31—Prince Edward.. 12 40	" 77—Occident..... 00 00
" 32—Waterloo..... 11 10	" 78—Minnewawa..... 10 40
" 34—Signet..... 45 80	" 79—Orient..... 37 40
" 35—Keystone..... 14 60	" 80—Ark..... 15 40
" 36—Corinthian..... 13 00	" 81—Aylmer..... 11 80
" 37—Victoria..... 13 00	" 82—Shuniah..... 23 00
" 38—Seymour..... 6 20	" 83—Ionic..... 5 21
" 39—Botsford..... 5 00	" 84—Lebanon..... 28 60
" 40—Guelph..... 40 40	" 85—Exeter..... 25 20
" 41—Harris..... 8 20	" 86—Macpherson..... 28 20
" 44—Mount Sinai..... 0 00	" 87—Wentworth..... 24 20
" 45—Excelsior..... 0 00	" 9—Golden Rule..... 2 00
" 46—St. James'..... 0 00	Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock..... 225 00
" 47—Wellington..... 17 80	Interest on \$1,500 Toronto H. B. Society Stock.... 135 11
" 48—St. John's..... 9 20	Interest on Bank Deposits 41 91
" 49—Elora..... 19 10	
" 50—Saugeen..... 34 40	
" 52—Prince Rupert's.. 57 80	
Carried forward....\$1,112 80	\$2,035 63

CASH STATEMENT.

1881.	1880.
July 11—To Receipts...\$2,035 63	Oct. 23—By G. Treas....\$121 50
	1881.
	Jan. 3— “ “ 98 08
	“ 15— “ “ 161 30
	Mar. 25— “ “ 105 00
	April 30— “ “ 275 00
	May 20— “ “ 150 00
	June 15— “ “ 153 00
	“ 18— “ “ 135 00
	“ 22— “ “ 135 00
	“ 30— “ “ 172 00
	July 7— “ “ 190 20
	“ 9— “ “ 180 00
	“ 11— “ “ 159 55
\$2,035 63	\$2,035 63

RECAPITULATION.

Certificates.....	\$422 00
Dues.....	712 11
Registration Fees.....	241 50
Dispensations, various.....	13 00
Warrants.....	20 00
Ceremonies.....	220 00
Constitution.....	5 00
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock.....	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto H. B. Society Stock.....	135 11
Interest on Bank Deposits.....	41 91
	\$2,035 63

Moved by R. E. Comp. Hy. Macpherson, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. Hendry, jr., and *Resolved*,—That the annual Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit.

Letters of apology were then read from M. E. Comps. T. D. Harington and S. B. Harman, also from R. E. Comp. Wm. Hawthorne, expressing their regrets that they would not be able to be present at this Annual Convocation.

A letter was also read from E. Comp. J. M. Carter, Baltimore, our Representative near the Grand Chapter of the State of Maryland, reporting as to the standing of said Grand Lodge.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan then presented the following documents which he had received since the last Annual Convocation: a copy of the Catalogue of the Grand Lodge Library of the State of California, the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of Missouri, and a bound copy of the Reprint of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, Vol. I., from the year 1817 to the year 1853, both inclusive, which, on motion of R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, seconded by R. E. Comp. R. Brierly, and *Resolved*, were received and the Grand Scribe E. was instructed to tender the several Grand Bodies the thanks of this Grand Chapter for the presents now received.

PROTECTION OF RECORDS.

To the M. E. Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS:—

Your Committee, appointed at the last Convocation of Grand Chapter to make better provision for the safe keeping of the books, records and papers of Grand Chapter in the office of the Grand Scribe E., beg to report, that having regard to the nature and extent of the said records and papers,

and the imperative necessity of their preservation from fire, they deemed it expedient to purchase for the moderate sum of \$275 one of Edwards' large fire and burglar proof safes that originally cost \$450, and that has only been a short time in use. The safe is now placed in position in the office of the Grand Scribe E., and is open for inspection to the members of Grand Chapter.

Fraternally submitted.

JAMES SEYMOUR,
J. M. MEAKINS,
J. M. GIBSON,
J. J. MASON.

Hamilton, June 18th, 1881.

Moved by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee for the Protection of Records be received and adopted.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION.

To the M. E. Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Special Committee on the Revision of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, beg leave to present as their report the Revised Constitution, as it has been printed and distributed to the several Subordinate Chapters, as directed by the Grand Chapter at the last Annual Convocation, and now submit the same for the consideration of the Grand Chapter.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

Hamilton, July 15th, 1881.

On motion of R. E. Comp. Hy. Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Hy. Macpherson, the report of the Special Committee on the Revision of the Constitution was received.

REPORT ON THE M. E. THE GRAND Z.'S ADDRESS.

The Executive Committee have carefully considered the very able and interesting address of the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and beg leave to report thereon as follows:

Your committee deeply deplore the loss by death of Rt. Ex. Comp. W. H. Weller, Past Grand H. of this Grand Chapter, and feel assured that the many and valuable services rendered by the lamented Companion will not soon be forgotten by the members of this Grand Chapter.

Your committee join with the Grand Z. in believing that it is a cause for congratulation that the number of Chapters under our jurisdiction has not been augmented during the past year, feeling satisfied that the establishment of Chapters in localities already sufficiently provided for, would be highly detrimental to the true interests of the Royal Craft.

Your committee are glad to perceive that the number of special dispensations granted is diminishing, and trust that in the near future the necessity for these dispensations will be entirely removed.

We rejoice to hear that the adoption and exemplification of the established ritual has had a beneficial effect, and are happy to hear that the officers of subordinate Chapters have, as a rule, availed themselves of the opportunity of securing the information so long and ardently desired and requested.

It is gratifying to know that increased prosperity has attended Capitular Masonry throughout this jurisdiction during the year just past. Our financial condition has improved, and the subordinate Chapters of the various districts are evidently in a state of solvency and progression.

Your committee feel satisfied that the exertions of the Most Excellent the Grand Z. have contributed largely to this gratifying result, and trust that he may long be spared

to adorn our Order, and exemplify those qualities which have enabled him so successfully to maintain the honor and dignity of the high position which he has at all times so ably and efficiently filled.

STATE OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

We, your Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, beg respectfully to report that we have carefully examined the Reports of the 12 Districts, comprising this Grand Chapter, and are very much pleased to learn that the Superintendents of the various Districts have been very energetic in the discharge of their duties. It is a sign that the Chapters were judicious in their choice and wisely presided over. It is pleasing to note that a general improvement is taking place throughout the Jurisdiction. Peace and harmony prevail, as no complaints have been made, and we sincerely trust it will ever thus continue. In conclusion, we would suggest that Grand Chapter urge the Superintendents of the different Districts to press upon the various chapters the necessity of perfecting themselves in the work adopted by Grand Chapter so that uniformity can be attained.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

The Executive Committee on Grievances and Appeals beg to report that they have examined the papers in the case before them and report as follows:—

NEW BRUNSWICK, R. A. CHAPTER, N. 10	} The papers submitted to the Committee in this case
<i>vs.</i>	
JOHN MELICK.	

do not state what crime the Comp. is charged with, though they are in the hands of the Grand Superintendent of the Province of New Brunswick; we therefore recommend that full particulars be asked for by the Grand S. E., and the matter be left in abeyance until next Regular Convocation of Grand Chapter.

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

The Executive Committee beg leave to submit the following report :—

They have examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer up to the 11th July, 1881, and find them correct.

The Receipts and Disbursements for the past year have been as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand.....	\$1,835 38
Certificates.....	\$422 00
Dues.....	712 11
Registration Fees.....	241 50
Dispensations.....	13 00
Warrants.....	20 00
Ceremonies.....	220 00
Constitutions.....	5 00
Interest on \$4,500 Dominion Stock.....	225 00
Interest on \$1,500 Toronto H. B. Society Stock.....	135 11
Interest on Bank Deposits.....	41 91
	2,035 63
	\$3,371 01

DISBURSEMENTS.

Mrs. T. B. Harris, grant, 1881.....	\$200 00
David McLellan, balance from last year...	41 67
“ year’s salary.....	500 00
“ Postage, Stationery, etc.	59 29
Rolph Smith & Co., Certificates.....	110 00
J. B. Trayes, Printing Proceedings.....	190 08
Printing and Stationery.....	43 25
Expenses of Ritual Committee.....	134 50
Testimonial to F. J. Menet.....	149 00

Incidentals to F. J. Menet, as Grand Z.	
during term of office.....	\$44 00
D. Henderson, Engrossing Warrants... ..	23 50
Henry Robertson, Report on Foreign Cor-	
respondence.....	50 00
J. Eastwood & Co., new Register & Ledger	23 25
	\$1,568 54
Cash on deposit in C. B. of Commerce....	1,802 47
Total.....	\$3,371 01

ASSETS.

Dominion Stock bearing 5% interest.....	\$4,500 00
Toronto House Building Ass. Stock.....	1,500 00
Cash on deposit.....	1,802 47
	\$7,802 47

LIABILITIES.

The following accounts which the Committee recommend for payment:—

Committee on Foreign Correspondence....	\$ 50 00
J. B. Trayes, printing.....	4 75
Times Printing Company, do.....	5 75
Foster, Davidson & Co., safe.....	275 00
	\$ 335 50

Your Committee have considered the application of S. H. Blondheim, a member of Cataraqui Chapter, No. 12, Kingston, for relief to the amount of \$50, but cannot recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, as Grand Chapter has hitherto declined to accede to special requests of this kind, which in any case should be accompanied by suitable recommendation from some Chapter or the Grand Superintendent of the District.

Your Committee recommend that the Grand H. be authorized to draw on the Grand Treasurer for an amount sufficient

to defray the expenses of the present Annual Convocation, including the printing of the proceedings for the present year.

Your Committee have examined the tenders for printing the Proceedings of Grand Chapter for three years, and recommend that the tender of J. B. Trayes be accepted, on condition that he furnish a bond in the sum of five hundred dollars for the proper performance of the work, Grand Chapter reserving to itself the right to cancel the contract at any time if the work is not executed in a manner satisfactory to the Grand Z. and the Grand Scribe E.

Your Committee further recommend that as the work of the Grand Scribe E. has largely increased, his salary be augmented by an addition of \$100.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DONALD ROSS,

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Donald Ross, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Executive Committee be received and adopted.

The following Companions presented their credentials, and were severally greeted with the usual Masonic salutations, which were suitably acknowledged by them:—

R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, Grimsby,	Gr'd Chap., Illinois.
" Comp. J. R. Robertson, Toronto,	" Nebraska.
" Comp. Jas. B. Nixon, "	" Vermont.
" Comp. J. M. Meakins, Hamilton,	" Wisconsin.
V. E. Comp. Hugh A. Mackay, Hamilton,	" Ohio.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The following named Companions were declared duly elected:—

R. E. Comp.	Donald Ross, Picton,	Grand Z.
" "	Henry Macpherson, Owen Sound,	" H.
" "	Thos. Sargent, Toronto,	" J.
" "	David McLellan, Hamilton, re-elected,	" S. E.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment at 1.15 P. M.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 2 15 P. M.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	Grand Z.	} Grand Council.
R. E. "	Donald Ross,	" H.	
" "	Henry Macpherson,	" J.	

On the Throne

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the Representatives from the respective Districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z., as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

V. E. Comp.	James Noble, Strathroy,	London	Dist.
R. " "	Charles L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson	"
V. " "	Alfred Taylor, Galt,	Wellington	"
E. " "	Thomas Clark, Dundas,	Hamilton	"
R. " "	Isaac F. Toms, Goderich,	Huron	"
" "	I. P. Willson, Welland,	Niagara	"
R. E. "	J. Ross Robertson, Toronto,	Toronto	"
" "	Charles Doeblor, Port Hope,	Ontario	"
" "	James Smith, Belleville,	P. Edward	"
" "	John Moore, Ottawa,	Central	"
" "	Henry Duffell, St. John,	N. Brunsw'k	"
" "	John H. Bell, Winnipeg,	Manitoba	"

The election of officers was then continued, with the following result:—

E. Comp.	G. J. Duncan,	Drummondville,	Gr'd S. N.
E. "	Colin Munro,	Hamilton,	" Prin. Soj.
R. E. "	E. Mitchell,	Hamilton,	re-elected " Treas.
V. "	Francis Gallow,	Toronto,	" Registrar.

And by an open vote of Grand Chapter, Comp. F. J. Hood, London, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year:—

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson.....	Collingwood.
" "	Jonathan M. Meakins.....	Hamilton.
" "	Jas. B. Nixon.....	Toronto.
" "	Wm. Forbes.....	Grimsby.
" "	J. J. Mason	Hamilton.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., assisted by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, Past Grand Z., then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, Grand Z., then appointed the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz:—

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth.....	London.
" "	R. Hendry, Jr	Kingston.
" "	T. C. Macnabb.....	Chatham.
" "	John McLaren.....	Orangeville.
" "	H. K. Maitland	Guelph.

At a subsequent date, the M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the year ensuing, viz:—

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	J. H. Benson, Seaforth,	Grand 1st As. Soj.
" "	Wm. Walker, Toronto,	2nd "
" "	John Inglis, Guelph,	Sword B'r.
" "	R. B. Hungerford, London,	M. of Veils.
" "	W. L. Tackaberry, Chatham,	Stand. B'r.
" "	H. C. Winch, Peterboro,'	Dir. of Cer.
" "	J. H. Kenning, Prescott,	Organist.
" "	H. S. Broughton, Bradford,	Pursuivant
" "	J. G. Robinson, Yorkville,	Steward.
" "	Jas. R. Haun, Port Colborne,	" "
" "	John Walsh, Ottawa,	" "
" "	Robert Mackay, St. Thomas,	" "

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson submitted the draft of the new Constitution, (As per Appendix No. 1), which was discussed clause by clause.

It was moved by R. E. Comp Henry Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, and

Resolved,—That the new Constitution, as amended, be adopted.

MOTIONS.

Moved by M. E. Comp. James Seymour, Past Grand Z., seconded by R. E. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, and

Resolved,—That the Grand Z. be requested to appoint a committee to supervise the printing of the Constitution.

Moved by M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, seconded by R. E. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb, and

Resolved,—That a Special Committee, consisting of the following members, viz: R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry and M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson, be appointed to take into consideration the advisability of

organizing a scheme of benevolence in connection with the funds of Grand Chapter, and to report some such scheme, if found advisable, at the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter.

Moved by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, seconded by R. E. Comp. John McLaren, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Companions of The Hiram Chapter, No. 2, and St. John's Chapter, No. 6, of the City of Hamilton, for the excellent arrangements made for the holding of the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, and for the generous hospitality extended to the representatives and visitors.

Moved by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, and

Resolved,—That a committee be appointed to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Past Grand Z., to mark in an appropriate manner our esteem for him and our high appreciation of his valuable services as Grand Z. during the years 1879–80 and 1880–81.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By V. E. Comp. John G. Robinson, Ontario Chapter, No. 65, Yorkville,—

I give notice that, at the next Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, I will move that the first clause of the Constitution, relating to Grand Superintendents of Districts, be amended so as to read as follows: “This officer must be a Past First Principal, and a resident of the District for which he is appointed, but no presiding First Principal of a Chapter shall be eligible for election.”

The M. E. Grand Z. was then pleased to appoint the following committees:—

PRINTING THE CONSTITUTION.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson.....	Collingwood.
" "	Gavin Stewart	Hamilton.
" "	J. J. Mason	"

TESTIMONIAL TO M. E. COMP. DANIEL SPRY, PAST
GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
" "	Thos. Sargent.....	Toronto.
" "	James B. Nixon.....	"

The labors of Grand
Chapter being ended it
was closed in Ample
Form, at 5.30 P. M.



David M. Lellan.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURN RECEIVED.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z	SCRIBE E.
1	Ancient Frontenac	Kingston.....	C Third Tuesday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	G. M. Wilkinson..	A. LeRicheux
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	H First Monday of every month.....	Colin Munro.....	C. W. Mulligan
3	St. John's.....	London.....	L Fourth Wednesday of every month.....	W. H. Rooks.....	John Siddons
4	St. Andrew & St. John	Toronto.....	T Third Friday of every month.....	George Hodgetts...	Donald Sinclair
5	St. George's.....	London.....	L Third Tuesday of every month.....	John Overell.....	W. R. Browne
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	H Second Thursday of every month.....	William G. Reid...	James A. Malcolm
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	P E First Tuesday of every month.....	James Smith.....	Donald McLean
8	King Solomon's	Toronto.....	T Third Monday of every month.....	J. Ross Robertson.	A. R. Riches
10	New Brunswick..	St. John.....	N B First Thursday of every month.....	Andrew J. Stewart	D. S. Stewart
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew's, N. B.	B Second Thursday of each month.....	Benj. R. Stevenson	W. D. Forster
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	C Second Monday in Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.	John H. Birkett...	Wm. S. Smyth
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	L Second Friday in Jan., April, July & Oct...	E. A. Vidal.....	James Woods
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	C Second Monday of every month.....	John Walsh.....	W. H. Morgan
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	W First Friday of every month.....	James Canfield....	James Wilson
19	Mount Moriah...	St. Catharines..	N Friday on or before full moon of each month	John W. Coy.....	L. R. Smith
20	Mount Horeb...	Brantford.....	W First Wednesday of every month.....	S. W. McMichael...	Robert Morton
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	C First Wednesday in Jan., April, July & Oct	J. H. Kenning.....	A. Parker
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	W Second Wednesday of every month.....	Robert Rochester..	John Wilson
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	H Last Tuesday of every month.....	J. L. Richmond...	Thomas Miller
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	P E Second Wednesday of every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood....	T First Friday of every month.....	Henry Robertson..	W. R. Anderson
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	O First Friday of every month.....	H. B. F. Odell....	L. H. Murton
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	N Friday on or after full moon of every month	John Parry.....	Archibald Couper
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	H First Friday of every month.....	Henry Cooke.....	James Addison
31	Prince Edward..	Pictou.....	P E Friday on or after every full moon.....	John H. Murney....	Donald Ross
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	W Monday on or after full moon of every month	Isidore E. Eby....	R. S. Blain
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	T First Tuesday of every month.....	Jno McL Stevenson	Geo. Monkman

Returns of Subordinate Chapters, &c., Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	O Third Thursday of every month.....	John Stanton.....	J. H. Addison
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro.	O Third Friday of every month.....	Rev. V. Clementi.....	H. Rush
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	O Second Thursday of every month.....	J. B. Traves.....	W. B. Wallace
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	T Friday on or before full moon of every month.....	W. H. Porter.....	H. S. Broughton
39	Botsford.....	Moncton.....	N B Third Monday of every month.....	G. H. Peck.....	Geo. Ackman
40	Guelph.....	Wn Guelph.....	Wn Friday on or after every full moon.....	John Seoon.....	R. A. Nelles
41	Harris.....	Wn Ingersoll.....	W First Tuesday after full moon of every month.....	C. H. Slawson.....	W. A. Woolson
42	Mount Sinai.....	Napaeue.....	P E Wednesday after every full moon.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
43	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	O First Thursday of every month.....	.....	M. Williams
44	St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	Hn Second Wednesday of every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
45	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	L Thurs'dy on or before full moon every month.....	W. L. Tackaberry.....	Charles Dunlop
46	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	O Friday on or before full moon every month.....	R. J. Winch.....	Geo. J. Stephens
47	Elora.....	Wn Elora.....	Wn Wednesday after full moon every month.....	J. M. Fraser.....	Wm. E. Savage
48	Saugeen.....	Wn Walkerton.....	Wn Second Wed. Jan., March, May, July, Sept, Oct.....	Joseph Craig.....	J. F. H. Gunn
49	Prince Rupert...	Winnipeg.....	M First Thursday of every month.....	William G. Scott.....	Alfred Pearson
50	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	L First Thursday of every month.....	John Sinclair.....	R. Lawyer
51	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	L First Tuesday of every month.....	Robert Mackay.....	H. Kirkland
52	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	N Thursday after full moon of every month.....	J. M. Clement.....	R. Best
53	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	T First Tuesday of every month.....	Richard Notter.....	D. P. Urquhart
54	King Hiram.....	Pt. Colborne.....	N First Thursday of every month.....	Thomas Rae.....	S. R. Cleveland
55	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	C First Monday of every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
56	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	C Friday on or before full moon of every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
57	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	T First Wednesday of every month.....	J. H. Widdfield.....	A. M. Hood
58	Granite.....	Perth.....	C Second Monday of every month.....	W. T. Walker.....	James Bell
59	York.....	Eglington.....	T Fourth Thursday of every month.....	W. D. Norris.....	Jno. Knox Leslie
60	Havelock.....	Lucknow.....	Hn First Monday of every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns
61	Willson.....	Welland.....	N Last Wednesday of every month.....	J. Hamilton Bugar.....	I. P. Willson

65	Ontario.....	Yorkville.....	T ⁿ Second Wednesday of every month.....	John G. Robinson..	H. E. Caston.
66	Seaforth.....	Seaforth....	H ⁿ . Friday before full moon of every month.....	No Returns.	No Returns.
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston....	W ⁿ . Tuesday after full moon of every month.....	Alex. Michie.....	Henry H. Dewar.
68	Maitland.....	Maitland....	C. Thur. nearest f.m. in Mar., June, Sep. & Dec.	John Moore.....	David Lynch.
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby....	N. First Wed. in Jan., Mar., May, July, Sep., Dec.	William Forbes....	William Gibson.
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	W ⁿ . First Wednesday after full moon.....	Jeremiani Suddaby.	Charles Huber.
71	Prince of Wales..	Amherstburg..	L. First Wednesday on or before full moon.....	George Gott.....	Sam. L. Laufer.
72	Erie.....	Port Stanley..	L. First Friday in every month.....	No Returns.....	No Returns.
73	Beaver.....	Strathroy....	L. Second Tuesday of each month.....	B. Paine.....	J. B. Watson.
74	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	H. Second Wed. in Jan. and alternate months..	J. E. Harrison.....	E. Dixon.
75	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondv ¹ N.	First Friday after full moon.....	George J. Duncan..	John Gray.
76	Occident.....	Toronto.....	T. Fourth Monday of every month.....	W. Walker.....	W. J. Turner.
77	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill....	L. Third Wednesday of every month.....	W. Thompson.....	T. L. Rogers.
78	Orient.....	Toronto.....	T. Third Wednesday of every month.....	Francis Gallow....	Andrew Park.
79	Ark.....	Windsor.....	L. First Wednesday of each month.....	Thomas Burnie....	R. McGaire.
80	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	L. Friday on or after full moon of every month..	C. W. Clark.....	S. S. Clutton.
81	Shuniah.....	P. A. Landing H ⁿ .	Friday on or before full moon.....	S. W. Ray.....	Wm. J. Clark.
82	Ionic.....	Orangeville... W ⁿ .	Tuesday after the full moon of every month..	Wm. Watson.....	John C. Foxas.
83	Lebanon.....	Wingham....	H ⁿ . First Wednesday of each month.....	J. E. Tamlyn.....	Dixie Watson.
84	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	H ⁿ . First Tuesday of each month.....	William Matheson.	George Samwell.
85	Macpherson.....	Mesford.....	T. Second Thursday of each month.....	Thomas McCarroll..	Fred. S. Clarke.
86	Wentforth.....	Dundas.....	H. Friday on or after each full moon.....	Thomas Clark.....	S. J. Lennard.

NOTE.—The capital letters on the right of "where held" column indicate the several Districts, viz. :—C., Central; H., Hamilton; Hⁿ, Huron; L., London; M., Manitoba; N., Niagara; N. B., New Brunswick; O., Ontario; P. E., Prince Edward; W., Wilson; Wⁿ, Wellington.

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1880.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RET'NS	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1795	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1881	.....	.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	" 1820	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
3	St. John's.....	London.....	" 1844	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
4	St. Andrew and St. John.....	Toronto.....	" 1847	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
5	St. George's.....	London.....	" 1854	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	" 1855	.....	.....	" "	.....	2 00
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	" 1856	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857	.....	.....	" "	.....	10 00
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	Feb. 24, 1859	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew, N. B.....	Sept., 1846	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
12	Cataraqui.....	Kingston.....	A. D. 1859	.....	.....	" "	.....	2 00
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Feb. 8, 1860	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	Feb. 21, 1861	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Feb. 20, 1862	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	22 40	.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Aug. 11, 1863	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Aug. 14, 1866	1874	75-6-7-8-9-80	" 1873	19 00	.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	" "	.....	.....	" 1881	.....	6 00
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	Aug. 13, 1867	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	14 20	.....
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	" "	.....	.....	" "	.....	12 00
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	.....	" "	.....	.....

32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Aug. 11, 1868	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1881	20	.....
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	Aug. 10, 1869	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	"	.....	.....	"	21	10
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	Aug. 10, 1870	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
39	Botsford.....	Moncton, N. B.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	Aug. 9, 1871	1876	'77-8-9-80-1	"	1875	1 00
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	13 60
46	St. James'.....	St. Mary's.....	"	1874-5	'76-7-8-9-80-1	"	1873	2 75
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	"	.....	.....	"	1881	.....
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	Aug. 14, 1872	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	"	.....	.....	"	1 00	.....
50	Saugeen.....	Walkerton.....	"	.....	.....	"	9 00	.....
52	Prince Rupert's.....	Winnipeg.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	Aug. 13, 1873	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	20
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	"	.....	.....	"	1880	4 00
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	Aug. 14, 1874	.....	.....	"	1881	.....
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	"	1876	'77-8-9-80-1	"	1875	10 00
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	"	.....	1880-81	"	1879	7 60
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	"	.....	.....	"	1881	.....
61	Granite.....	Perth.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
62	York.....	Eglington.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
63	Havelock.....	Lucknow.....	"	1879	1880-81	"	1878	7 00
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	.....	"	1881	10 00
65	Ontario.....	Yorkville.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
66	Seaforth.....	Seaforth.....	"	.....	1880-81	"	1879	.....
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	"	.....	.....	"	1881	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JULY, 1880.—Continued.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RET'NS	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURN.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CREDIT
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....	Aug. 11, 1875	.....	.....	Jan. 31, 1881	.....	.....
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	Aug. 9, 1876	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
73	Erie.....	Port Stanley.....	"	1879	1880-81	"	.....	.....
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
76	Mount Nebo.....	Drummondville.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	Aug. 8, 1877	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	Aug. 14, 1878	.....	.....	"	20	.....
82	Shuniah.....	Pr. Arthur's Landing	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	"	.....	.....	"	4 79	.....
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	Aug. 13, 1879	.....	.....	"	.....	.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	July 16, 1880	.....	.....	"	.....	4 00
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	.....

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1881.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION, HAMILTON, 5881. 63

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admis- sions.	No. of Join- ing.	Restor'd	With- drawals.	Suspen- sions.	Expell'd	Deaths.	No. of Membrs
1	Ancient Frontenac.....	Kingston.....	.....	.....	.....	4	6	.....	1	53
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	10	2	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	171
3	St. John's.....	London.....	20	.....	.....	2	4	.....	1	91
4	St. Andrew and St. John.....	Toronto.....	1	1	.....	5	1	.....	2	109
5	St. George's.....	London.....	3	3	.....	7	.....	.....	2	96
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	10	.....	.....	4	4	.....	3	195
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	9	1	.....	3	1	.....	1	93
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	8	.....	1	2	11	.....	.....	130
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	101
11	St. Mark's.....	St. Andrew, N. B.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	17
12	Catarqui.....	Kingston.....	2	.....	1	.....	6	.....	.....	75
15	Wawaunosh.....	Sarnia.....	3	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	68
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....	.....	1	64
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	3	.....	.....	3	4	.....	1	73
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	46
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	3	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	29
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	32
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	52
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	6	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	53
31	Prince Edward.....	Picton.....	.....	.....	.....	1	6	.....	.....	37

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1881.—Continued.

No.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admis- sions.	No. of Join- ings.	Restor'd	With- drawals.	Suspen- sions.	Expell'd	Deaths.	No. of Memb's.
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	26
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	10	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	40
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	35
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
39	Botsford.....	Moncton, N. B.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	55
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	8	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2	62
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	2	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	31
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
46	St. James'.....	St. Mary's.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	1	.....	.....	10	3	.....	1	59
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	3	32
50	Saugeen.....	Walkerton.....	5	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....	40
52	Prince Rupert's.....	Winnipeg.....	17	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	64
53	Bruce.....	Petrolia.....	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	47
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	7	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	94
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	1	1	.....	3	10	.....	.....	30
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	25

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on Roll.....	76	Number Withdrawals Reported.....	88
“ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	54	“ Suspensions “	58
“ Registrations Reported.....	204	“ Deaths “	33
“ Joinings.....	30	“ Expelled “	0
“ Restored.....	9	Total number Members on Roll of Grand Chapter..	3,480
Total amount of Receipts, 1880-81.....		\$2,035 63.	

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| No. 1. <i>Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.</i> | |
| William Hay. | Peter S. Livingston. |
| John D. Sellack. | Allan B. Macpherson. |
| Peter Cameron. | Wm. B. Carroll. |
| No. 3. <i>St. John's, London.</i> | |
| D. Vrooman. | F. H. Coles. |
| Wm. Walmsley. | Wm. H. Taylor. |
| No. 6. <i>St. John's, Hamilton.</i> | |
| Samuel Patterson. | Frederick A. Gardner. |
| Francis Jeffrey. | William Kerns. |
| No. 7. <i>Moir, Belleville.</i> | |
| James W. Horne. | |
| No. 8. <i>King Solomon's, Toronto.</i> | |
| G. M. Lynn. | N. G. Bigelow. |
| S. Wilson. | Robert Grant. |
| R. M. Campbell. | T. McCorquodale. |
| W. F. Wright. | H. McCorquodale. |
| James Spencer. | T. C. Johnson. |
| No. 12. <i>Cataraqui, Kingston.</i> | |
| W. E. Swales. | F. Scobell. |
| G. W. Leslie. | A. A. Dawson. |
| T. Seale. | |
| No. 30. <i>Huron, Goderich.</i> | |
| Gordon Campaign. | |
| No. 31. <i>Prince Edward, Picton.</i> | |
| Henry T. Woods. | John E. Sills. |
| John Twigg. | R. A. Norman. |
| J. L. McDonald. | James B. Lay. |
| No. 38. <i>Seymour, Bradford.</i> | |
| W. A. Spooner. | F. Walton. |

No. 47.

*Wellington, Chatham.*H. J. Eberts.
J. H. Luscombe.

J. J. Birdsey.

No. 50.

Saugeen, Walkerton.

Edward Kilmer.

No. 56.

*Georgian, Owen Sound.*W. C. Jewell.
N. T. Robertson.
H. P. Hemming.
W. F. Livingstone.
R. R. Fulton.Thomas Gordon.
Zenis Williamson.
Wm. Anderson.
J. A. Orr.
Abraham Boice.

UN-MASONIC CONDUCT.

No. 8.

King Solomon's, Toronto.

Frank West Rimer.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 16.

*Carleton, Ottawa.*George Cox.
D. S. Eastwood.

John Satchell.

No. 24.

Tecumseh, Stratford.

W. R. Knox.

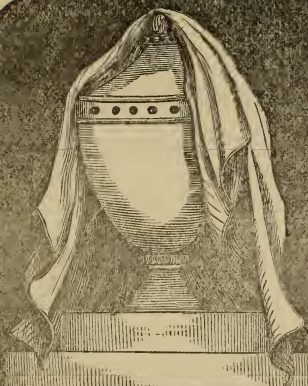
No. 52.

Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.

W. B. Thibaudeau.

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
James Wilson.....	1, Ancient Frontenac..	March 30, 1880
J. W. Waugh.....	3, St. John's.....	Oct. 30, 1880.
Stephen Fuller.....	4, St. And. & St. John.	April, 1880.
John Patterson.....	"	Sept. 15, 1880.
A. M. Ross.....	5, St. George's	Dec. 7, 1880.
Rev. H. Bartlett.,...	"	Jan. 27, 1881.
John Stonier.....	6, St. John's.....	April 25, 1880.
James S. Laing.....	"	Aug. 17, 1880.
Alex. McMenemy....	"	July 30, 1880.
Abraham Diamond..	7, Moira.....	July 24, 1880.
James Keeler.....	22, Grenville.....	May 8, 1880.
A'gustus T. Fothergill	28, Pentalpha.....	Sept. 5, 1880.
Bernard Trainer.....	30, Huron.....	Aug. 23, 1880.
Morgan Williams....	32, Waterloo.....	Oct. 12, 1880.
Geo. W. Lambert....	37, Port Hope.....	May 27, 1880.
S. J. Watson.....	38, Seymour.....	No Date.
Charles Sharpe.....	40, Guelph.....	March 24, 1880
John H. Emmanus....	"	June 15, 1880.
James L. Ash.....	47, Wellington.....	Sept. 6, 1876.
William Strachan....	49, Elora.....	No Date.
Alfred Kirkman.....	"	No Date.
James Miller.....	"	May 2, 1876.
John McKenzie.....	53, Bruce.....	May 20, 1880.
John Rispin.....	"	May 26, 1880.
Richard F. Baker....	68, Maitland.....	Aug. 13, 1880.
Joseph S. Perine....	70, Grand River.....	July 26, 1880.
R. C. Scratcherd....	74, Beaver.....	Feb., 1878.
Andrew McBeth.....	77, Occident.....	Dec. 8, 1880.
F. G. Elliott.....	80, Ark.....	June 10, 1880.
Thomas Gidley.....	85, Exeter.....	July 20, 1880.



In Memoriam.

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANION

WILLIAM H. WELLER

Past Grand Master of the
GRAND LODGE OF CANADA
and Past Grand H. of the
GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

DIED MARCH 28, A. D. 1881

AT REST.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1880-81.

M. E. Comp.	Donald Ross,	Grand Z.	
R. E.	H. Macpherson, Owen Sound,	H.	} Grand Council.
"	Thomas Sargant, Toronto,	J.	
"	Jas. Noble, Strathroy,	Gr. Supt.	London District.
"	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	"	Wilson "
"	Alfred Taylor, Galt,	"	Wellington "
"	Thomas Clark, Dundas,	"	Hamilton "
"	Isaac F. Toms, Goderich,	"	Huron "
"	I. P. Willson, Welland,	"	Niagara "
"	John Ross Robertson, Toronto,	"	Toronto "
"	Chas. Doeblor, Port Hope,	"	Ontario "
"	Jas. Smith, Belleville,	"	P. Edward "
"	John Moore, Ottawa,	"	Central "
"	Henry Duffell, St. John's,	"	New Brun. "
"	John H. Bell, Winnipeg,	"	Manitoba "
"	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand Scribe	E.
"	G. J. Duncan, Drummondville	"	N.
"	Colin Munro, Hamilton,	"	Principal Sojourner.
"	Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
"	Francis Gallow, Toronto,	"	Registrar.
V. E.	J. H. Benson, Seaforth,	"	1st Asst. Sojourner.
"	Wm. Walker, Toronto,	"	2nd "
"	John Inglis, Guelph,	"	Sword Bearer.
"	R. B. Hungerford, London,	"	Master of Veils.
"	W. L. Tackaberry, Chatham,	"	Standard Bearer.
"	H. C. Winch, Peterboro,	"	Dir. of Ceremonies.
"	J. H. Kenning, Prescott,	"	Organist.
"	H. S. Broughton, Bradford,	"	Pursuivant.
"	J. G. Robinson, Yorkville,	"	Steward.
"	Jas. R. Haun, Port Colborne,	"	"
"	John Walsh, Ottawa,	"	"
"	Robert Mackay, St. Thomas,	"	"
"	F. J. Hood, London,	"	Janitor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT :

R. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, Grand H., Owen Sound.

M. E. Comp. T. Douglas Harington, P. G. Z., Prescott.

“ “ S. Bickerton Harman, P. G. Z., Toronto.

“ “ C. D. Macdonnell, P. G. Z., Peterboro’.

“ “ James Seymour, P. G. Z., St. Catharines.

“ “ L. H. Henderson, P. G. Z., Belleville.

“ “ Fred J. Menet, P. G. Z., Toronto.

“ “ Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., Barrie.

R. E. “ Thomas Sargant, P. G. Z., Toronto.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. James Noble, Strathroy, London District.

“ “ C. L. Beard, Woodstock, Wilson District.

“ “ Alfred Taylor, Galt, Wellington District.

“ “ Thomas Clark, Dundas, Hamilton District.

“ “ Isaac F. Toms, Goderich, Huron District.

“ “ I. P. Willson, Welland, Niagara District.

“ “ John Ross Robertson, Toronto, Toronto District.

“ “ Charles Doeblor, Port Hope, Ontario District.

“ “ James Smith, Belleville, Prince Edward District.

“ “ John Moore, Ottawa, Central District.

“ “ Henry Duffell, St. John, New Brunswick District.

“ “ John H. Bell, Winnipeg, Manitoba District.

“ “ David McLellan, Grand Scribe E., Hamilton, *ex-officio*.

“ “ G. J. Duncan, Drummondville, Grand Scribe N., *ex-officio*

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Collingwood.

“ “ Jonathan M. Meakins, Hamilton.

“ “ William Forbes, Grimsby.

“ “ J. J. Mason, Hamilton.

“ “ J. B. Nixon, Toronto.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp. A. G. Smyth, London.

“ “ T. C. Macnabb, Chatham.

“ “ H. K. Maitland, Guelph.

“ “ Robt. Hendry, Jr., Kingston.

“ “ John McLaren, Orangeville.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF
 CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>		<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Alabama,	R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.
Arkansas,	" "	John McLaren,	Mount Forest.
California,	" "	Hy. Macpherson,	Owen Sound.
Colorado,	M. E. "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	R. E. "	Donald Ross,	Picton.
Delaware,	" "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	" "	Jas. Moffatt,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
Indiana,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines.
Iowa,	" "	"	"
Kansas,	R. E. "	J. M. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	" "	Thos. Sargant,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	" "	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	Rev. St. Geo. Caulfeild,	Windsor.
Maryland,	" "	J. G. Burns,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	" "	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E. "	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	R. E. "	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Laprairie,
Nebraska,	" "	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
New Hampshire,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
New Jersey,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E. "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	" "	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	M. E. "	T. D. Harington,	Prescott.
Ohio,	R. E. "	H. A. Mackay,	Hamilton.
Oregon,	" "	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	E. "	J. B. Trayes,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,	M. E. "	C. D. Macdonnell,	Peterboro'.
Tennessee,	" "	T. D. Harington,	Prescott.
Texas,	R. E. "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Virginia,	" "	Wm. Brydon,	Toronto.
Vermont,	" "	Jas. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
West Virginia,	M. E. "	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E. "	J. M. Meakins,	Hamilton.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

<i>Grand Chapters.</i>		<i>Representatives.</i>	<i>Residences.</i>
Alabama,		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson,	Talladega.
Arkansas,		" " Geo. L. Kimball,	Dardanelle.
California,	M. " "	N. W. Spaulding,	Oakland.
Colorado,	" " "	Benj. T. Wells,	Black Hawk.
Connecticut,	" " "	W. R. Higby,	Bridgeport.
Delaware,	" " "	Geo. F. Young,	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia,	R. " "	J. S. McCoy, M. D.,	Washington.
Florida,	M. " "	Robt. J. Perry,	Key West.
Georgia,	" " "	W. H. Tuller,	Atlanta.
Illinois,	R. " "	Jas. H. Miles,	Chicago.
Indiana,	" " "	E. L. McLallen,	Columbia City.
Iowa,	R. " "	Jas. W. Wilson,	Newton.
Ireland,	" " "	J. H. Neilson,	Dublin.
Kansas,	" " "	Francis Menet,	Lawrence.
Kentucky,	M. " "	H. R. French,	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana,	R. " "	Andrew Hero, Jr.,	Delta.
Maine,	M. " "	Andrew J. Fuller,	Bath.
Maryland,	" " "	J. M. Carter,	Baltimore.
Massachusetts.			
Minnesota,	R. " "	Orville G. Miller,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	M. " "	A. H. Barkley,	Crawfordsville.
Missouri,	R. " "	M. A. Fyke,	Clinton.
Nebraska,	" " "	H. P. Duel,	Omaha.
New Hampshire,	" " "	A. Baker,	Lebanon.
New Jersey,	M. " "	W. H. McIlhaney,	New York.
Nevada,	R. " "	S. W. Chubbuck,	Gold Hill.
New York,	" " "	Jno. S. Bowen,	New York.
North Carolina,	" " "	Chas. C. Clarke,	New Berne.
Nova Scotia,	" " "	L. F. Darling,	Halifax.
Ohio,	R. " "	C. A. Woodward,	Cleveland.
Oregon,	" " "	Donald Mackay,	Portland.
Pennsylvania,	R. " "	Thos. R. Patton,	Philadelphia.
Quebec,	" " "	Thos. Milton,	Montreal.
Rhode Island,	" " "	W. R. Greene,	Providence.
South Carolina,	" " "	J. M. Bratten, M.D.,	Charleston.
Tennessee,			
Texas,	" " "	Henry Scherffius,	Houston.
Virginia,	M. " "	Geo. W. Dame,	Danville.
Vermont,	R. " "	Wm. Brinsmaid,	Burlington.
West Virginia,	" " "	Frank Johnson,	Wheeling.
Wisconsin,	M. " "	R. D. Pulford,	Mineral Point.
Scotland,	R. " "	Lord Inverurie,	Carlton Club,
Gr. Mark Lodge of			London, Eng.
Eng & Wales,	M. " "	Frederick Binckes,	London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
Alabama	James Harvey Joiner, Talladega..	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery	Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile.
Arkansas	George Thornburgh, Powhatan....	L. E. Barber, Little Rock	C.M.Barnes,L.Minor,J M.Pinnell
California	Henry S. Orme, Los Angeles	Thos H. Caswell, San Francisco.	Thos. H. Caswell, San Francisco.
Canada	Donald Ross, Picton, Ont.	David McLellan, Hamilton.....	Henry Robertson, Collingwood.
Colorado	John S. Tikomb, Boulder	E. C. Farnellee, Georgetown.....	Roger W. Woodbury, Denver.
Connecticut	Chas. W. Skiff, New Haven	J. K. Wheeler, Hartford	John H. Barlow, Birmingham.
Delaware	John W. Lawson, Wilmington	H. B. McIntire, Wilmington.....	Wm. G. Lewis, Middletown.
Dist. of Columbia	Joseph H. Jochum	Chas. W. Hancock, Washington.	Noble D. Larnier, Washington.
Florida	W. A. McLean, Jacksonville	D. C. Dawkins, Jacksonville	Samuel Lawrence, Atlanta.
Georgia	J. W. Ostin, West Point	J. E. Blackshear, Macon	Robt. L. McKinlay, Paris.
Illinois	Silas O. Vaughan, DeKalb	Gilbert W. Barnard, Chicago	Thos. B. Long, Terre Haut.
Indiana	Edward Walker, Delphi	J. M. Bramwell, Indianapolis	T. R. Ercanbrack, Anamosa.
Iowa	Almon R. Dewey, Washington	W. B. Langridge, Muscatine	
Ireland	Hon. Judge Townshend	Samuel B. Oldham, Dublin	
Kansas	Silas E. Sheldon, Topeka	John H. Brown, Wyandotte	John H. Brown, Wyandotte.
Kentucky	W. LaRue Thomas, Danville	J. H. Branham, Louisville	H. A. M. Henderson, Frankfort.
Louisiana	Andrew Hero, Jr., New Orleans . . .	J. C. Batchelor, New Orleans	Jos. P. Horner, New Orleans.
Maine	Joseph A. Locke, Portland	Ira Perry, Portland	J. H. Drummond.
Maryland	Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas, Baltimore	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore	E. T. Shultz, Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Thomas Waterman, Boston	Z. H. Thomas, Cambridgeport . . .	Rev. J. W. Dadmun, Boston.
Michigan	Chas. H. Axtell, Ionia	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids	W. P. Innes, Grand Rapids.
Minnesota	W. G. Bronson, Stillwater	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul.
Mississippi	Fred. Speed, Vicksburg	J. L. Power, Jackson	P. M. Savery, Baldwn.
Missouri	Samuel H. Owens, California	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis	W. H. Mayo, St. Louis.
Nebraska	H. Baxter Nicodemus, Fremont . . .	W. R. Bowen, Omaha	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.—Continued.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES.	CHAIRMAN COM. CORRESPONDENCE.
New Hampshire.	Albert S. Wait, Newport.....	Geo. P. Cleaves, Concord.....	J. J. Bell, Exeter.
New Jersey.	Charles Bechtel, Trenton.....	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City. . .	Geo. B. Edwards, Jersey City.
Nevada.	Frank Bell, Reno.....	S. W. Chubbuck, Gold Hill.....	John D. Hammond, Carson.
New York.....	Wm. T. Woodruff, New York.....	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo.....	D. A. Ogden, Pennyan.
North Carolina..	Chas. W. Alexander, Charlotte...	T. M. Gardner, Wilmington....	James Southgate, Hillsboro.
Nova Scotia	James Gossip, Halifax.....	Geo. T. Smithers, Halifax.....	James Gossip, Halifax.
Ohio.....	James B. Hovey, Marietta.....	James Nesbitt, Troy.....	Thos. J. Melish, Cincinnati.
Oregon.....	David P. Mason, Albany.....	R. P. Farhart, Salem.....	T. McF. Patton, Salem.
Pennsylvania.....	W. C. Hamilton, M.D., Phila....	M. Nesbit, Philadelphia.....	Chas. E. Meyer, Philadelphia.
Quebec.....	Isaac H. Stearns, Montreal.....	Angus Grant, Montreal.....	A. F. Simpson, Lennoxville, Que
Rhode Island	John P. Sanborn, Newport.....	G. H. Burnham, Providence.....	G. H. Burnham.
South Carolina...	F. F. Gary, Cokesburg.....	M. B. Moses, Sumpter.....	J. E. Burke, Charleston.
Tennessee.....	G. R. Gwynne, Lebanon.....	John Frizzell, Nashville.....	Robt. M. Elgin, Houston.
Texas.....	Z. E. Coombes, Dallas.....	Robt. Brewster, Houston.....	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.
Virginia.....	Peyton S. Coles, Estouteville....	W. B. Isaacs, Richmond.....	Ed. S. Dana, New Haven.
Vermont.....	Homer M. Phelps, Burlington...	W. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington	O. S. Long, Wheeling.
West Virginia...	W. H. H. Flick.....	O. S. Long, Wheeling.....	J. P. C. Cottrill, Milwaukee.
Wisconsin.....	Fred. Ring, Jr., LaCrosse.....	J. W. Woodhull, Milwaukee.....	
Gen. Grand Chap	Robt. F. Bower, Keokuk, Iowa...	C. G. Fox, Buffalo.....	
England.....	H. R. H. Prince of Wales.....	Col. Shadwell H. Clerke.....	
Scotland.....	Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart.....	Lindsay Mackersy, Edinburgh...	
G. Mark Lodge of			
Eng. & Wales..	Lord Henniken.....	Fred. Binckes, London, Eng.....	

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1—LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. James Noble, Strathroy.

No. 3, St. John's, London.....	Middlesex	County.
" 5, St. George's, London.....	"	"
" 15, Wawanosh, Sarnia.....	Lambton	"
" 47, Wellington, Chatham.....	Kent	"
" 53, Bruce, Petrolia.....	Lambton	"
" 54, Palestine, St. Thomas.....	Elgin	"
" 71, Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.....	Essex	"
" 73, Erie, Port Stanley.....	Elgin	"
" 74, Beaver, Strathroy.....	Middlesex	"
" 78, Minnewawa, Park Hill.....	"	"
" 80, Ark, Windsor.....	Essex	"
" 81, Aylmer, Aylmer.....	Elgin	"

NO. 2—WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. C. L. Beard, Woodstock.

No. 18, Oxford, Woodstock.....	Oxford	County.
" 20, Mount Horeb, Brantford.....	Brant	"
" 23, Ezra, Simcoe.....	Norfolk	"
" 41, Harris, Ingersoll.....	Oxford	"

NO. 3—WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Alfred Taylor, Galt.

No. 32, Waterloo, Galt.....	Waterloo	County.
" 40, Guelph, Guelph.....	Wellington	"
" 49, Elora, Elora.....	"	"
" 50, Saugeen, Walkerton.....	Bruce	"
" 67, Enterprise, Harriston.....	Wellington	"
" 70, Grand, River, Berlin.....	Waterloo	"
" 83, Ionic, Orangeville.....	Wellington	"

NO. 4—HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Thomas Clark, Dundas.

No. 2, The Hiram, Hamilton.....	Wentworth	County.
" 6, St. John's, Hamilton.....	"	"
" 75, St. Clair, Milton.....	Halton	"
" 87, Wentworth, Dundas.....	Wentworth	"

NO. 5—HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich

No. 24, Tecumseh, Stratford.....	Perth	County.
" 30, Huron, Goderich.....	Huron	"
" 46, St. James', St. Mary's.....	Perth	"
" 63, Havelock, Lucknow.....	Bruce	"
" 66, Seaforth, Seaforth.....	Huron	"
" 82, Shuniah, P. A. Landing.....	Algoma	District.
" 84, Lebanon, Wingham..	"	"
" 85, Exeter, Exeter.....	Huron	"

NO. 6.—NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. I. P. Willson, Welland.

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County.
" 29, McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monck	"
" 55, Niagara, Niagara.....	Niagara	"
" 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	"
" 64, Willson, Welland.....	"	"
" 69, Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	"
" 76, Mount Nebo, Drummondville.....	Welland	"

NO. 7—TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, Toronto.

No. 4, St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto..	York	County.
" 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 27, Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	"
" 34, Signet, Barrie.....	"	"
" 38, Seymour, Bradford.....	"	"
" 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	"
" 60, Doric, Newmarket.....	York	"
" 62, York, Eglinton.....	"	"
" 66, Ontario, Yorkville.....	"	"
" 77, Occident, Toronto.....	"	"
" 79, Orient, Toronto.....	"	"
" 86, Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	"

NO. 8—ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Charles Doebler, Port Hope.

No. 28, Pentalpha, Oshawa.....	Ontario	County.
" 35, Keystone, Whitby.....	"	"
" 36, Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	"
" 37, Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	"

- No. 45, Excelsior, Colborne.....Northumberland Co
 " 48, St. John's, Cobourg..... " "

NO. 9—PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. James Smith, Belleville.

- No. 7, Moira, Belleville.....Hastings County.
 " 26, St. Marks, Trenton..... " "
 " 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....Pr. Edward "
 " 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....Lennox "

NO. 10—CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John Moore, Ottawa.

- No. 1, Ancient Frontenac, Kingston.....Frontenac County.
 " 12, Cataraqui, Kingston..... " "
 " 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....Carleton "
 " 22, Grenville, Prescott.....Grenville "
 " 58, Pembroke, Pembroke.....Renfrew "
 " 59, Sussex, Brockville.....Leeds "
 " 61, Granite, Perth.....Lanark "
 " 68, Maitland, Maitland.....Grenville "

NO. 11—NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. Henry Duffell, St. John.

- No. 10, New Brunswick, St. John.....St. John, N. B.
 " 11, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's.....St. Andrew's, N. B.
 " 39, Botsford, Moncton.....Westmoreland, N.B.

NO. 12—MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John H. Bell, Winnipeg.

- No. 52, Prince Rupert, WinnipegManitoba.

Constitution and General Regulations

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ORDER OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF CANADA.

Revised by Grand Chapter, 15th day of July, A. D. 1881, A. I. 2411.

THE GRAND CHAPTER.

I. The style and title of the Grand Chapter shall be "*The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada,*" and such Grand Chapter shall consist of, and the members shall rank in the following order:—

The Grand Z.

Past " "

The " H.

Past " "

The " J.

Past " "

Grand Superintendent, London			District.
"	"	Wilson	"
"	"	Huron	"
"	"	Wellington	"
"	"	Hamilton	"
"	"	Niagara	"
"	"	Toronto	"
"	"	Ontario	"
"	"	Prince Edward	"
"	"	Central	"
"	"	New Brunswick	"
"	"	Manitoba	"

Past Grand Superintendents of Districts in the same order of precedence.

Grand Scribe E.

" " N.

Past " Scribes E. and N.

" Principal Sojourner.

Past " " "

" Treasurer.

Past " "

" Registrar.

Past " "

" First Assistant Sojourner.

Past " " " "

" Second " "

Past " " " "

" Sword Bearer.

Past " " "

" Master of Veils.

Past " " "

" Standard Bearer.

Past " " "

" Director of Ceremonies.

Past " " "

" Organist.

Past " "

Grand Pursuivant.

Past " "
 " Stewards.

Past " "

The three Principals of every Subordinate Chapter.

Past Z., H., and J. of every Subordinate Chapter,
 being subscribing members to some regular Chap-
 ter.

Grand Janitor.

N. B.—All First and Past First Grand Principals are styled "*Most Excellent*;" all other elective Grand and Past Grand Officers are styled "*Right Excellent*;" and all Appointed and Past Appointed Grand Officers are styled "*Very Excellent*." The Grand Janitor is styled "*Companion*."

II. The officers of Grand Chapter shall be respectively elected or appointed, as hereinafter provided; and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall have been regularly elected or appointed and installed.

The election and appointment of all officers shall take place at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, when they shall be duly installed and invested in ancient form.

III. The following officers shall be nominated for election, and if more than one Companion be nominated, the election between them shall be decided by ballot, viz:—

The Most Excellent Grand Z.

"	Right	"	"	H.
"	"	"	"	J.
"	"	"	"	Scribes E. and N.
"	"	"	"	Principal Sojourner.
"	"	"	"	Treasurer.
"	"	"	"	Registrar.

But where only one nomination takes place, the ballot is unnecessary.

By an open vote of the Grand Chapter,—

The Grand Janitor.

By a majority of the representatives of the Chapters of their respective Districts present at the Annual Convocation, subject to the confirmation of the Grand Z.,—

The Right Excellent the Grand Superintendents of Districts.

IV. The following officers shall be appointed by the Grand Z:—

The V. E. Grand First Assistant Sojourner.

“ “ “ Second Assistant Sojourner.

“ “ “ Sword Bearer.

“ “ “ Master of Veils.

“ “ “ Standard Bearer.

“ “ “ Director of Ceremonies.

“ “ “ Organist.

“ “ “ Pursuivant.

Four “ “ Stewards.

V. The elective officers shall require a majority of all the votes present, and all the officers except the Janitor must be Past First Principals.

VI. Should neither of the representative officers, nor a Past Z. of a Chapter, attend any Convocation of the Grand Chapter, such Chapter, by a vote properly certified by the First Principal and Scribe E., under seal, may delegate any Companion entitled to a seat in the Grand Chapter to represent their Chapter, but no Companion can represent more than three Chapters.

VII. Every Companion elected or appointed to office in the Grand Chapter shall, during his period of office, be a subscribing member to some regular Subordinate Chapter; and any Past Grand Officer or member, who shall for twelve months continuously cease to be a subscribing member to some Subordinate Chapter, shall be disqualified from attending the Grand Chapter, such disqualification to continue until he shall have again become, and continue to be, a subscribing member to some regular Subordinate Chapter.

VIII. Should a vacancy occur in any office of the Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. shall nominate a qualified Companion to supply the place *pro tempore*. But no officer can resign his office after he has been installed and invested; nor can he be removed except for cause which appears to the Grand Chapter to be sufficient, to be ascertained by the votes of the majority of members present, on complaint laid before it by the Grand Z., in which case another must be elected or appointed in his stead, as the case may be. This includes the Grand Janitor.

IX. The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, shall be held on the Friday of the same week in which is held the meeting of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, at the same place, at the hour of ten A. M.

X. The Grand Z. may convene Grand Chapters of emergency, when necessary, of which at least seven clear days notice shall be given. The reason for convening a Grand Chapter of Emergency shall be expressed in the summons, and no business but that so expressed shall be entered upon at that meeting.

XI. No officer or member shall be permitted to attend in Grand Chapter without the proper clothing and jewel of a Royal Arch Mason.

XII. If at any Grand Chapter, stated or occasional, any of the Grand Principals be absent, the chairs shall be filled by the Grand Officers next in rank and seniority who may be present, provided they be installed Present or Past First Principals of any regular Subordinate Chapter. And if no such Grand Officer be present, then by the First Principals of Chapters, according to seniority, and the powers of any such *pro tempore* presiding officers shall be the same as those properly belonging to the office so filled by him.

XIII. The Grand Chapter is declared open in *ample form* when the Grand Z. is present, at all other times in *due form*, but with the same authority.

XIV. An Annual Report of the transactions of the Grand Chapter, with an account of the funds and property belonging to it, shall be printed without delay, and one copy thereof transmitted to every officer of the Grand Chapter, and two copies to every Subordinate Chapter, immediately after the Annual Convocation.

XV. In the Grand Chapter alone resides the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Royal Arch, and of altering, amending, repealing and abrogating them. The Grand Chapter has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relating to the Royal Arch, and the intermediate degrees, and to Subordinate Chapters and individual Companions; which it may exercise either of itself, or by such delegated authority as it may appoint; but in the Grand Chapter alone resides the power of erasing Chapters and expelling Companions from this Order of Freemasonry.

XVI. When the Grand Lodge or any other competent Masonic authority shall, for any un-Masonic conduct, suspend or expel any brother who is a Royal Arch Mason, such Companion shall be suspended or expelled from his Arch Masonic functions for the period whilst such Craft suspension or expulsion continues in force.

XVII. Should any Chapter have neglected to make its returns and payments to the Grand Chapter, for more than one year, the representatives of such Chapter shall not be permitted to attend any meeting of the Grand Chapter, until such returns and payments shall have been completed.

XVIII. No Companion shall be qualified or permitted to attend Grand Chapter as Principal or Past Principal, unless and until his name and appointment shall have been transmitted to the Grand Scribe E.

XIX. Companions of eminence and ability, who have rendered service to the Craft, may, by a vote of the Grand

Chapter, be constituted members of the Grand Chapter, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper.

REGULATIONS

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND CHAPTER DURING THE TIME OF BUSINESS.

TO BE READ AT EVERY CONVOCATION THEREOF.

XX. The Grand Chapter being opened, and the regulations having been read, the minutes of the last Annual Convocation, and of any intervening Grand Chapter, are then to be put for confirmation; and any communication from the Grand Principals, or either of them, and reports from the Grand Superintendents of districts, and any committee, shall be read and taken into consideration; after which, the other business shall be regularly proceeded with.

XXI. All matters are to be decided by a majority of votes, except where a ballot is enacted or demanded; each officer and member of the Grand Chapter (except the Grand Janitor), shall have one vote, and the presiding officer, in case of equality, a casting vote; unless the Grand Chapter, for the sake of expedition, shall think proper to leave any particular subject to the determination of the presiding officer. The votes of the members are to be signified by each holding out one of his hands, which hands the Grand Scribes are to count, unless the presiding officer shall declare the numbers so unequal as to render the counting unnecessary. No visitor shall on any occasion be permitted to vote.

XXII. Any member may demand a ballot on any question, either before or immediately after an open vote shall have been taken. In all matters to be decided by ballot, each Chapter shall have three votes, and each officer (except the Janitor) and member, not otherwise entitled to vote,

shall have one vote, and (except where otherwise provided) in case of equality, the presiding officer shall have a casting vote. The Grand Scribes shall act as scrutineers.

XXIII. Whenever the presiding officer shall call to order, there shall be a general silence.

XXIV. All members shall keep their seats, except the Grand Scribes, the Grand Principal Sojourner and his assistants, the Grand Director of Ceremonies, and Grand Stewards, who are allowed to move about from place to place in discharge of their duties.

XXV. No Companion shall speak twice to the same question, unless in explanation, or the mover in reply, and no visitor shall speak to any question, unless requested or permitted to do so by the presiding officer.

XXVI. Every Companion who speaks shall rise, and remain standing, addressing himself to the presiding officer; and no Companion shall interrupt him, except to speak to order, or the presiding officer to call him to order; but after he has been set right he may proceed, if he observes due order and decorum.

XXVII. If any member shall have been twice called to order by the presiding officer, and shall, nevertheless, be guilty of a third offence at the same meeting, the presiding officer may command him forthwith to quit the Grand Chapter, and he shall not be again admitted to that Convocation.

XXVIII. Whoever shall be so un-Masonic as to hiss at a Companion, or at what he has said, shall be forthwith solemnly excluded from the Convocation, and declared incapable of being a member of any Grand Chapter, till, at another Grand Convocation, he publicly own his fault and grace be granted.

XXIX. No motion for the repeal or alteration of any existing law, or for the introduction of a new one, shall be made,

without notice being given in a previous Grand Chapter. And no repeal, alteration or addition shall be valid, unless supported by two-thirds of the votes present.

XXX. No motion on any new subject shall be made, nor any new matter entered upon after eleven o'clock at night.

OF GRAND OFFICERS.

XXXI. The Grand Z., after his installation, at the annual convocation, shall nominate such grand officers as it is his prerogative to appoint, who, with the elective grand officers, are to be thereupon installed and invested in ancient form.

XXXII. Should the Grand Z. die during his term of office, or be rendered incapable of discharging the duties, the Immediate Past First Grand Principal shall act until the next election takes place. Should he decline or be unable to act, the last but one, and so on; but if no former Grand Z. be found to act, the Grand Chapter shall be summoned by the Grand H., or in his absence, by the Grand J., to elect a new Grand Z.

XXXIII. The Grand Z., under the sanction of the Grand Chapter, may, by warrant, appoint any Companion of eminence and skill to represent the Grand Chapter in a sister Grand Chapter; he may also constitute the representative of a sister Grand Chapter a member of the Grand Chapter of Canada, with such rank as the Grand Chapter may deem to be appropriate.

XXXIV. The Grand Principals, or either of them, may preside in any Chapter they may visit.

XXXV. The Grand Z. may summon any Chapter or Companion to attend him, and may order the production of the warrant, books, papers and accounts of such Chapter. If the summons be not complied with, nor a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, such summons shall be repeated as a peremptory one; and if such last summons be not attended

to, the offending Chapter or Companion may be suspended, and the proceeding notified to the Grand Chapter for further consideration, and punishment if deemed necessary.

XXXVI. The Grand Z. shall not be applied to officially concerning Royal Arch Companions or Masonry except through the Grand Scribe E., or Grand Superintendents of Districts.

But this shall not refer to the Grand Principals H. and J. who can communicate direct.

XXXVII. The Grand Z. has the sole power to grant Dispersations; except for public festivals or processions, authority for which may be granted by any of the Grand Principals or Grand Superintendents of Districts.

OF GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF DISTRICTS.

XXXVIII. This officer must be a Past First Principal, and a resident in the District for which he is appointed.

XXXIX. He may preside in every Chapter he visits within his district.

XL. He may hear and determine any subject of Masonic complaint, or irregularity respecting Chapters and individual Companions within his District, and may proceed to admonition, or to suspension. A minute of all such proceedings, stating the offence and the law applicable to it, together with his decision, is to be transmitted to the Grand Z., through the Grand Scribe E., and when the case is of so flagrant a nature as, in the judgment of the Grand Superintendent of the District, to require the erasure of a Chapter, or the expulsion of a Companion, he shall make a special report to the Grand Chapter, with his opinion thereon. His decision is final, unless an appeal is made therefrom to the Grand Z., or Grand Chapter.

XLI. He may summon any Chapter or Companion within the District to attend him, and may order the production of

the warrant, books, papers and accounts of such Chapter. If the summons be not complied with, nor a sufficient reason given for non-compliance, a peremptory summons shall be issued; and, in case of contumacy, he may suspend the offending Chapter or Companion, and shall report the case as before provided.

XLII. All petitions or warrants must be recommended and duly signed by the Grand Superintendent of the District prior to their transmission to the Grand Scribe E., whose duty it shall be to see that such recommendation and signature are duly attached to each Petition.

XLIII. He shall transmit to the Grand S. E., at least fourteen days prior to each Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, a report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in his District, with a list of such Chapters as may have been constituted since the last Annual Convocation, for the information of the Grand Chapter.

XLIV. He has power to give or refuse consent for the removal of a Chapter from place to place within his District, but not from his District into another, nor from another District into his own, without the sanction of the Grand Z.

XLV. He may grant dispensations for public festivals or processions in his District.

OF GRAND SCRIBES E. AND N.

XLVI. All ministerial duties usually known as appertaining and all privileges attached to the office of Grand Scribe, are to be performed and enjoyed exclusively by the Grand Scribe E.

XLVII. The Grand Scribe N. shall assist the Grand Scribe E., during the business of the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and temporarily perform his duties should the Grand Scribe E. be rendered incapable by sickness, absence from the Province, or otherwise.

OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

XLVIII. The Executive Committee shall consist of all Past Grand First Principals, the Grand Principals H. and J., the Grand Superintendents of Districts and the Grand Scribes, (*ex-officio* members), and ten other members of the Grand Chapter, five to be elected annually by ballot, and five to be appointed by the Grand Z., immediately after the election and appointment of Grand Officers. The Grand H. shall be the presiding officer, and seven members shall constitute a quorum for the despatch of business. The Committee may appoint sub-committees from amongst its members.

XLIX. The Committee shall meet at the place appointed for the Annual Convocation, on the day previous thereto, at such hour as the Grand H. may appoint. It may also be convened at other times by command of the Grand H.

L. In the absence of the Grand H., the Committee shall elect a chairman.

LI. The Committee shall audit the accounts of the Grand Chapter, and report thereon at the Annual Convocation, and shall prepare an annual report on Foreign Correspondence for general information.

LII. The Committee shall appoint a Committee on Credentials, and shall examine and report on all applications for warrants, and generally on all matters referred to it by the Grand Z. and Grand Chapter, and shall have the right of summoning any Chapter or Companion to attend and produce all books, papers and accounts belonging to them, under penalty, on neglect or refusal, of being by said Committee, suspended and reported to the Grand Z. or Grand Chapter.

LIII. All questions shall be decided by a majority of votes; the presiding officer, in case of equality, having a casting vote.

LIV. The members of the Committee, when assembled on business, shall be in Royal Arch clothing.

LV. The Committee shall proceed to the consideration of any special matter referred to it by the Grand Z., or Grand Chapter, in preference to other general business.

LVI. All transactions and resolutions of the Committee shall be entered in a Minute-book by the Grand Scribe E.

GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

LVII. The Grand Chapter of Canada has the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master Masons, within its jurisdiction; with authority to assign the limits of the several districts, and settle controversies that may happen between them, and has power under the great seal of the Grand Chapter, and the sign manual of the Grand Principals, attested by the Grand Scribe E., to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master Masons, within the jurisdiction.

LVIII. The Grand Z. has the power and authority, whenever he shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter, to grant a dispensation under his hand, and attested by the Grand Scribe E., under the seal of the Grand Chapter, upon the petition of nine registered Royal Arch Masons empowering them to hold Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Master Masons, for a certain specified time, provided such does not extend beyond the next ensuing Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, when the Grand Chapter may confirm the said dispensation and grant the petitioners a warrant of constitution.

LIX. No charter or dispensation shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters, independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

LX. All legally constituted assemblies of Royal Arch Masons are called Chapters, as regular bodies of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters are called Lodges. Every Chapter ought to assemble for work at least once in every three months, and shall consist of three Principals, two Scribes, three Sojourners, and a Janitor to which, for the better working of the Chapter, may be added other officers. Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters may be opened and worked without the Chapter being first opened.

LXI. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction, shall have a warrant of constitution from the Grand Chapter, and no Chapter shall be deemed legal without such warrant, or a dispensation from the Grand Z. The mode of application to be by petition, signed by nine registered Royal Arch Masons, specifying the place where it is intended to hold such Chapter, the day on which it is proposed to be holden, with the names of the three intended Principals, and such warrant and dispensation shall also give power to open and hold Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters.

LXII. The petition is to be transmitted to the Superintendent of the District in which it is intended to hold the Chapter, for his recommendation or opinion.

LXIII. Every Chapter shall be solemnly consecrated according to ancient custom, by one of the Grand Principals or Superintendents of Districts, or by some Present or Past First Principal of a Chapter.

LXIV. Every Chapter shall annually elect, by ballot, First, Second and Third Principals, Scribes E. and N., Principal Sojourner and Treasurer, and, by an open vote of the Chapter, the Janitor; and at the next Regular Meeting following such election, after the minutes shall have been read and approved, they shall be duly installed and invested. The

First Principal shall then appoint all the other officers required for the better working of the Chapter.

LXV. No Companion shall be eligible for the First Principal's chair, unless he be an installed Master or Past Master of a regular Lodge, nor until he has served in the Second Principal's chair for twelve months, nor to the Second, until he has served in the Third Principal's chair for twelve months, unless by special dispensation from the Grand First Principal.

LXVI. All matters are to be decided by a majority of votes, except where a ballot is specially enacted. If the numbers on the ballot or vote shall, in any case, be equal, the First Principal shall have the casting vote, or he may order a new ballot at his discretion.

LXVII. A register shall be kept by each Chapter of all Companions who shall be installed as First, Second and Third Principals, and every Chapter shall return to the Grand Scribe E. the name of every Companion so installed, with the date of his installation, and shall also notify the Grand Scribe E., whenever any Companion who has been installed as First, Second and Third Principal, shall, from any cause whatever, cease to be a member of the Chapter; and no Companion shall take his seat in the Grand Chapter as a Principal, or Past Principal, until his name shall have been so registered.

LXVIII. The First Principal is responsible for the due observance of the laws relating to Subordinate Chapters, and that all returns are made, and fees and dues paid to Grand Chapter. He shall see that a book or books be kept in which the Scribe E. shall enter the names of all candidates, with the dates of their proposals and taking the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch, and their ages, residences and professions, together with all such other transactions of the Chapter as are proper to be written.

LXIX. The Principals of the Chapter for the time being, shall be the Master and Wardens respectively of the Lodges of Mark, Past and Most Excellent Masters, and the other officers according to seniority.

LXX. The Officers and Companions, whilst in Chapter, shall wear the proper clothing and jewels of Royal Arch Masons.

LXXI. In case of the absence of the First Principal, his chair shall be taken by his immediate predecessor therein, or, in his absence, by the last but one, and so on, who shall discharge the duties of the office.

LXXII. In case of death or removal by Grand Chapter of a First Principal of a Chapter, the Chapter shall proceed to elect a new Principal in his place, giving seven clear days' notice of such election to all the members of the Chapter. And should a vacancy occur in any other office, the First Principal shall appoint a Companion to supply the place *pro tempore*; but no officer can resign his office after he has been installed or invested; nor can he be removed, except for cause which appears to the Chapter to be sufficient, to be ascertained by the votes of the majority of members present, on the complaint being laid before it by the First Principal, after having been duly notified to the members in the summons, in which case another must be elected or appointed in his stead, as the case may be. This includes the Janitors of Chapters.

LXXIII. A Chapter of emergency may at any time be called by summons, giving seven clear days' notice, by authority of the First Principal. The reason for calling it shall be expressed in the summons, and no other business than that specified therein, shall be entered upon at that meeting.

LXXIV. Every Chapter shall, at least once in each year, make a return to the Grand Scribe E., specifying the names,

ages, professions and residences, and the dates of Exaltation of the Companions exalted, together with the dates of their taking the previous degrees of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master, and shall at the same time remit the registering fees, and fees for Grand Chapter certificates, that may be due, and when any Companion exalted in foreign parts, whose name is not previously registered in the books of the Grand Chapter, shall join a Chapter as a member, his name, age, profession and Chapter shall be likewise returned, and the same fee shall be paid as if he had been exalted in the Chapter which he may so join. The name of each candidate must be included in the return as soon as he has received the degree of Mark Master, and the registering fee must be then remitted. The names also of all Companions who may join from any other Chapter must be returned, and the Chapter in which they were exalted; specified, and the names of all Companions who have ceased to be members must be returned. Every Mark Master must select his mark within six months from the date of his taking the degree, and a description of it shall be returned by his Chapter for record by the Grand Scribe E.

LXXV. No Chapter shall exalt a Mason to the Royal Arch degree, or admit a joining member, without strictly complying with the regulations enacted for those occasions. See "Of proposing members."

LXXVI. No Mason shall be exalted to the Royal Arch degree unless he has been a Master Mason for three calendar months at least, of which he shall give proof, except by dispensation from the First Grand Principal, which shall not, however, be for a shorter period than four weeks. He must have taken the degree of Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master previous to exaltation.

LXXVII. No Chapter shall confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch, upon any brother for a less sum than twenty dollars, which

sum must be paid before any of the degrees are conferred, and may include the fees to the Grand Chapter for registry and certificate. This is not, however, to extend to serving Companions, who may be exalted free of fee or charge, provided that a dispensation be obtained from the First Grand Principal.

LXXVIII. When any Companion from without the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada presents himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produces satisfactory proof of his having been exalted to that degree, each and every Chapter shall have liberty to and may confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master on such Companions who have not heretofore received them, free of charge, except a fee to Grand Chapter for registry and certificate.

LXXIX. Every Chapter has the power to make such By-laws as to them may seem meet for their own private government, provided they be not incompatible with the general laws of the craft, or the general statutes enacted by the Grand Chapter, and such By-laws shall be fairly copied in a book to be kept for that purpose, after a copy thereof shall have been sent to the Grand Scribe E., for approval by the Grand Z., every Companion shall sign them as a token of submission to them, when he becomes a member. The regular day and hour of meeting of the Chapter shall be specified in the By-laws.

LXXX. The Scribe E. of every Subordinate Chapter shall send a copy of every summons issued to the members of the Chapter, whether for a Regular or Emergent Convocation, to the Grand Superintendent of the District.

LXXXI. Every Chapter shall keep a book in which members shall sign their names before entering the Chapter, and also a book for visitors, which shall contain their names, rank, and Chapter from which they hail. The Janitor shall see that these entries are properly made.

LXXXII. The precedence of a Chapter is derived from the number of its Warrant, as recorded in the books of the Grand Chapter. If a Chapter be dissolved, its Warrant, records and property shall be delivered up to the Grand Chapter.

LXXXIII. If the majority of members quit a Chapter, the constitution or power of assembling exists with those remaining, provided their number be not less than nine, but if less than nine remain, their Warrant ceases and becomes extinct, and all the authority thereby granted or enjoyed reverts to the Grand Chapter.

LXXXIV. A Chapter or Companion offending against any law or regulation for which no specified penalty is enacted, shall be subject to admonition, or suspension, at the discretion of the Grand Z., the Grand Chapter, or the Grand Superintendent of the District.

LXXXV. No Companion shall in any way make known or publish any proceedings of a Chapter without proper authority, nor violate the secrecy of the ballot under any circumstances; under penalty of severe censure for a first offence, and, for a second offence, of suspension from all his Royal Arch privileges.

LXXXVI. Every Chapter has the power of enquiring into offences, and of suspending or excluding a member, but no Companion shall be suspended or excluded under any circumstances, until he shall have had due notice of the charge or complaint preferred against him, and of the time appointed for its consideration, so that he may be present and be afforded every opportunity of defending himself, before a decision is rendered as to his guilt or otherwise.

LXXXVII. The name of every Companion suspended or excluded, together with the cause thereof, shall be sent to the Grand Scribe E., and also to the Grand Superintendent of the District; and notice of his restoration shall also be sent to these two officers.

LXXXVIII. When a member has been suspended for non-payment of dues, he shall be immediately restored by the Chapter, without ballot, on payment of all arrears owing at the time of his suspension, and of the regular Chapter dues for the period he was so suspended.

LXXXIX. The majority of the members of a Chapter, when congregated, have the privilege of giving instructions to their Principals, or other representative, before the Convocation of Grand Chapter.

XC. Every Chapter shall be subject to erasure and forfeiture of its Charter of Constitution in either of the following cases:

Omitting to hold a Convocation of the Chapter for the space of two years.

Neglecting to make any return required by the foregoing laws.

Neglecting to register annually the names of all Companions exalted and of those who have joined the Chapter.

But no Chapter shall be erased under any circumstances until the Principals thereof shall have been duly summoned to show cause to the contrary to the Grand Chapter.

OF PROPOSING MEMBERS.

XCI. No Mason shall be advanced to the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, and exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, until he has presented a petition recommended by two Companions, being members of the Chapter, and been regularly proposed at one Convocation of the Chapter, and a committee has been appointed to enquire into his character, and his name, age, addition or profession, residence and Lodge, shall have been sent to all the members of the Chapter in the summons for the next Convocation—whether regular or emergent—when, if the committee report in his favor, he may be balloted for, and if approved, admit-

ted. But should the committee report unfavorably, he shall be deemed a rejected candidate and subject to Article 96.

XCII. All balloting for candidates as aforesaid must take place in the Royal Arch degree.

XCIII. No Companion shall be admitted a joining member without a regular proposition at one Convocation of the Chapter, and unless and until his name, occupation, residence, and Chapter, shall have been sent to all the members in the summons for the next regular Convocation, and their decision ascertained by ballot. He must give proof of his good standing, and be proposed and seconded by two members of the Chapter.

XCIV. No Chapter shall admit a candidate who resides in another district, or within the jurisdiction of another Chapter. The jurisdiction of every Chapter, except in cities and towns where there is more than one Chapter, extends between them half-way to the nearest Chapter, or to the boundary of the district. In such cities and towns, Chapters have concurrent jurisdiction.

XCV. No candidate shall be admitted, or Companion received as a joining member, if on the ballot, two black balls appear against him.

XCVI. No rejected candidate can be again proposed and ballotted for within twelve months of the time of his rejection. (See article 91.)

XCVII. No Mason shall be exalted to the Royal Arch degree, until he has received the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master. He must have been a Master Mason for three months, of which he shall give proof, except the period be shortened by dispensation of the Grand Z., which shall not, however, be for a shorter period than four weeks.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

XCVIII. Chapters may elect any Companion an honorary member, with or without the full privileges of an ordinary member, by unanimous ballot. Due notice must be given at one Convocation, and the name be inserted in the summons for the next regular Convocation. The Chapter must include all honorary members in its return to the Grand Chapter and pay similar dues for them as for ordinary members.

XCIX. Honorary membership does not confer the right of voting, except it is so declared at the time of election.

OF WITHDRAWAL.

C. Any member of a Chapter in good standing may withdraw from membership after notice in writing given to the Scribe E.

OF VISITORS.

CI. No visitors shall be admitted into a Chapter unless he be personally known or recommended, or well vouched for, and until after due examination on his first visit, by two or more of the Companions present, and he shall have entered his name, residence and Chapter, together with his Masonic rank, in a book to be kept by the Chapter for that purpose. The Janitor is to see that such entry is properly made.

CII. Visitors during their continuance in a Chapter are subject to its By-laws.

CIII. No Companion residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, and not affiliated with some Chapter has a right to visit any Chapter in the town or place where he resides, more than once during the period of his non-affiliation.

CIV. The First Principal of every Chapter is particularly bound to enforce these regulations.

OF THE CHAPTER SEAL.

CV. Every Chapter shall have a Masonic seal, to be affixed to all documents proper to be issued. An impression of it is to be sent to the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Superintendent of the District, and if at any time the seal shall be changed, an impression of the new seal shall in like manner be transmitted.

OF CERTIFICATES.

CVI. Every Chapter shall procure for each Companion exalted therein, immediately upon its being registered in the books of the Grand Chapter, a certificate under seal of the Grand Chapter, and signed by the Grand Scribe E., of such exaltation and registry, to be paid for by the Chapter.

CVII. Every Companion must sign his name in the margin of his certificate to make it valid, which should be done at the time of its delivery to him.

CVIII. Every return or document upon which a Grand Chapter certificate is to issue, must specify not only the date of exaltation, but also the dates when the Companion was advanced to the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master.

CIX. All applications for Grand Chapter certificates must be made to the Grand Scribe E., and no certificate can be issued until payment is made of the fees for registry and certificate.

CX. No Chapter shall grant a private certificate to a Companion for any purpose, except to enable him to obtain a Grand Chapter certificate, in which case it shall be specifically addressed to the Grand Scribe E., and except all such certificates as the laws or committees of Grand Chapter may sanction or require.

CXI. Whenever a member of a Chapter shall give notice *in writing* of his desire to retire, or shall be excluded from

membership, or whenever at a future time he may require it, he shall be furnished with a certificate, stating the circumstances under which he left the Chapter, and such certificate is to be produced to any other Chapter, of which he is proposed to be admitted a member, previous to the ballot being taken. No charge shall be made under any pretence for a private certificate.

OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

CXII. No public procession or festival shall be allowed without a dispensation from one of the Grand Principals, or the Grand Superintendent of the District, except to attend Masonic funerals, the urgency of which may not admit of the delay necessary for procuring the dispensation, and which shall immediately afterwards be reported to the Grand Superintendent of the district.

CXIII. If any Chapter or Companion shall attend any public procession (except a funeral) or festival, in Royal Arch clothing without a dispensation, such Chapter and Companion shall be suspended, until the Grand Z. or Grand Chapter shall determine thereon, and such Companion shall be rendered incapable of ever after being an officer of a Chapter. This includes Janitors of Chapters.

OF APPEAL.

CXIV. The Grand Chapter, when congregated, necessarily possesses a supreme authority over, and the power of finally deciding on, every case which concerns the benefit of Royal Arch Masonry, with its intermediate degrees. Any Chapter or Companion, therefore, which or who may feel aggrieved by the decision of any other authority, may appeal to the Grand Chapter against such decision, except it be that of the Grand Z. The appeal must be made in writing, specifying the particular grievance complained of, and be transmitted to the Grand Scribe E. A notice and copy of the appeal must be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

CXV. No appeal will be received by the Grand Chapter or the Grand Z., unless made in proper and respectful language, and it must be sent to the Grand Scribe E. within one month after the date of the decision appealed against.

CXVI. Notice of the intention to appeal against a decision must always be given within fourteen days from the time the decision is made known.

OF FEES.

CXVII. The following shall be the fees and dues payable to the Grand Chapter, and which must, in every case, be sent to the Grand Scribe E., with the application or return to which they respectively relate, and for which every First Principal of a Chapter is responsible:—

For a dispensation for a new Chapter.....	\$40 00
For a warrant of confirmation of same.....	10 00
For a warrant of Constitution for a new Chapter.....	50 00
For a new warrant, to replace loss by fire or otherwise, properly certified.....	10 00
For every other dispensation.....	1 00
For a Grand Chapter certificate.....	2 00
For a Grand Chapter certificate for all or either of the intermediate degrees, when applied for distinct from exaltation,	1 00
For registry of the name of every candidate for exaltation....	1 00
(This is to be paid in every instance as soon as a brother has received the degree of Mark Master Mason.)	
For registry of a Companion joining a Chapter whose name has been previously registered.....	0 50
For registry and certificate of the intermediate degrees conferred on Companions joining from another jurisdiction..	2 00
For every member of a Chapter, except for the year of his first becoming one, and payable at the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter (per annum).....	0 20

REGALIA.

The clothing and insignia of a Royal Arch Mason are as follows:—

APRON.

CXVIII. The apron is to be of white lamb-skin, or white

kid-skin, from fourteen to sixteen inches wide, and from twelve to fourteen inches deep, with an indented crimson and purple border two inches wide, the crimson part pointing to the centre of the apron, the border of the flap or lappet to be only one inch wide; in the centre of the flap is to be a triangle of white silk or satin, surrounded with gold border, and within the triangle three taus, united in gold spangled embroidery, and two gold tassels are to be suspended by white ribbons two inches wide, coming from under the flap. The linings and strings shall be white.

CXIX. The aprons for Principals and Past Principals of Subordinate Chapters, shall have the triangle, the linings and strings, and the ribbon suspending the tassels, of scarlet, and may be trimmed with gold lace and fringe.

CXX. The apron for Present and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter, shall have an indented crimson and purple border, four inches wide, the border of the flap or lappet to be two inches wide, the triangle, linings and strings and ribbon suspending the tassels to be purple; there may be also the emblem of office embroidered on the centre of the apron.

SASH.

CXXI. The sash of the Order shall be of four-inch indented crimson and purple ribbon, with silk fringe at the ends.

CXXII. The sash of Principals and Past Principals of Subordinate Chapters may have gold fringe or bullion.

CXXIII. The sash of Present and Past Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter, shall be a tricolor ribbon of purple, crimson and pale blue, four inches wide, with gold fringe or bullion at the ends.

CXXIV. Sashes to be worn on the left shoulder.

JEWELS.

CXXV. The jewel of office worn by the Present and Past

Officers of the Grand Chapter may be suspended by a collar of three colors, viz: purple, crimson and pale blue, four inches wide.

CXXVI. The jewel of office worn by the Principals and Officers of Subordinate Chapters, is to be suspended by a crimson collar, four inches wide.

CXXVII. The aprons, collars and jewels of officers of Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters and Most Excellent Masters, which are not independent bodies, may be those of the Chapter according to rank, and Companions may wear their Royal Arch clothing therein.

CXXVIII. The medal of the Order is to be worn on the left breast, suspended by a narrow white ribbon, two inches wide; but for Present and Past Officers of the Grand Chapter, it may be tricolor, corresponding with the collar; and for Principals and Past Principals of all Subordinate Chapters, crimson, also corresponding with the collar; all medals gold or gilt.

CXXX. The jewel of a Mark Master is to be in the form of a keystone. On the front the owner's mark or device is to be engraved within a circle, with the letters round it, H, T. W. S. S. T. K. S. On the reverse side may be the owner's name and that of his Chapter, with the date of his advancement. The jewel should be a white cornelian stone, but may be of gold or silver, or mother-of-pearl, and suspended by a narrow, light blue ribbon, with crimson edges.

CXXXI. No honorary or other jewel or emblem shall be worn which shall not appertain to or be consistent with those degrees which are recognized and acknowledged by the Grand Chapter.

CXXXII. The following are recognized degrees as defined by Grand Chapter, viz: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, Royal Arch.

ROBES.

First Grand and First Principal Z.

A crimson robe, trimmed with ermine.

Second Grand and Second Principal H.

A purple robe.

Third Grand and Third Principal J.

A blue robe.

Scribes E. and N., the Principal Sojourner and his Assistants, Pursuivant and Janitors of Grand and Subordinate Chapters.

White robes.

JEWELS.

First Grand Principal Z.

A crown irradiated, between the legs of a pair of compasses, the points resting on a triple triangle.

Second Grand Principal H.

The All-Seeing Eye irradiated, between the legs of a pair of compasses, the points resting on a triple triangle.

Third Grand Principal J.

The volume of the Sacred Law irradiated, between the legs of a pair of compasses, the points resting on a triple triangle.

Past Grand Principals.

The jewel appertaining to their respective offices, in a circle.

Grand Superintendents of Districts.

A small triangle irradiated, in a double triangle enclosed within a circle, on a triangle.

Past Grand Superintendents of Districts.

The same jewel, omitting the small triangle irradiated.

Grand Scribes E. and N.

Cross pens, with a tie within a triangle.

Principal Sojourners of Grand and Subordinate Chapters.

A square irradiated, within a triangle.

Grand Treasurer.

A key, within a triangle.

Grand Registrar.

A scroll, on a pen, within a triangle.

Assistant Sojourners of Grand and Subordinate Chapters.

A square, within a triangle, not irradiated.

Grand Sword Bearer.

Cross swords, with a tie, within a triangle.

Grand Master of Veils.

Cross batons, with a tie, within a triangle.

Grand Standard Bearer.

A standard with a triple tau in the centre, within a triangle.

Grand Director of Ceremonies.

Cross wands within a wreath, within a triangle.

Grand Organist.

A harp within a triangle.

Grand Pursuivant.

Cross swords and wand, with a coat of arms, within a triangle.

Grand Stewards.

A triangle.

Grand Janitor.

A sword.

Past Grand Officers.

The jewels appertaining to their respective offices set in a circle, except Past Grand Superintendents.

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.**First Principal Z.**

A crown irradiated within a triangle.

Second Principal, H.

An all-seeing eye irradiated, within a triangle.

Third Principal, J.

The volume of the sacred law irradiated, within a triangle.

Past Principals.

The same within a circle.

Officers of Subordinate Chapters.

The emblems appertaining to their office, as in Grand Chapter, within a triangle.

FORMS.

APPLICATION FOR A WARRANT OF CONSTITUTION.

To the Most Excellent Grand Principals, and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

We, the undersigned, being registered Royal Arch Masons of the Chapters mentioned against our respective names, pray for a Warrant of Constitution, empowering us to meet as a Regular Chapter at _____ to be called _____ on the _____ day of _____ and there to discharge the duties of Royal Arch Masonry in a Constitutional manner, according to the Forms of the Order, and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter; and we have nominated and do recommend Companion _____ to be First Principal, Z., Companion _____ to be Second Principal, H., Companion _____ to be Third Principal, J.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict conformity to the ancient landmarks of the Order, and the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter.

Dated at _____, &c., &c.

[To be signed by at least nine R. A. Masons.]

APPLICATION FOR EXALTATION.

To the Excellent the Principals, Officers and Companions of the _____ Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, No. _____

The undersigned, a Master Mason, raised in _____ Lodge, No.—, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of _____, respectfully offers himself as a candidate for advancement to the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, and exaltation to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in _____ Chapter, No.—. Should his

petition be granted, he promises a cheerful compliance with all the forms and usages of the Order.

Dated at, &c., &c.

(Signed) A. B.

Recommended by

C. D. _____

Residence _____

E. F. _____

Profession _____

Age _____

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Excellent the Principals, Officers and Companions of the _____
Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, No.—

I, _____, of the _____ of _____, (Profession or Addition) _____ aged _____, being a Royal Arch Mason, am desirous of becoming a member of the _____ Chapter, No.—.

I was exalted in _____ Chapter, No.—, and am in good standing in the Royal Craft.

Recommended by

_____ }

CERTIFICATE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM A CHAPTER.

To all Royal Arch Masons to whom these Presents shall come—Greeting :

This is to certify that Companion _____, who hath signed his name in the margin hereof, is a regular Royal Arch Mason in good standing at this date, and is, at his own request, regularly discharged from membership in the _____ Chapter, No. —, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Chapter,
at _____, &c.

{ SEAL. }

_____, Z.

_____,
Scribe E.

PROXY FOR A CHAPTER APPOINTING ITS DELEGATES TO GRAND
CHAPTER.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That at a ——— Convocation of the ——— Chapter, No. —, held on the — day —, A. D. —, Companion — was delegated to represent the said Chapter at the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter, to be held at —, on the — day of — A. D. —, and there to perform any and all acts which could be done by the duly qualified officers of the said Chapter were they personally present; promising to ratify and confirm all that the said delegate may lawfully do under such authority.

Given under our hands and the seal of the ——— Chapter, —, &c.

[SEAL]

_____,
Z.

Scribe E.

1881.

GRAND CHAPTER R. A. M. OF CANADA

REPORT

—ON—

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,

BEING AN APPENDIX TO THE PROCEEDINGS

FOR 1881.

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to present the following report. They have received and examined the proceedings of thirty-nine Grand Bodies, as under, and have extracted therefrom the most important and interesting passages.

England, (Mark).....	1880	Missouri.....	1880
Alabama.....	1880	Nebraska.....	1880
Arkansas.....	1879-80	Nevada.....	1880
California.....	1881	New Hampshire.....	1880
Colorado.....	1880	New Jersey.....	1880
Connecticut.....	1881	New York.....	1881
Delaware.....	1881	North Carolina.....	1880
District of Columbia.....	1880	Nova Scotia.....	1880
Florida.....	1880-81	Ohio.....	1880
Georgia.....	1880	Pennsylvania.....	1880
Illinois.....	1880	Quebec.....	1880
Indiana.....	1880	South Carolina.....	1880-81
Iowa.....	1880	Tennessee.....	1880
Louisiana.....	1881	Texas.....	1880
Maine.....	1880	Vermont.....	1881
Maryland.....	1880	Virginia.....	1880
Massachusetts.....	1880	West Virginia.....	1879-80
Michigan.....	1881	Wisconsin.....	1881
Minnesota.....	1880	General Grand Chapter.....	1880
Mississippi.....	1881		

ENGLAND.

The Half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales was held at Freemasons' Tavern, in the City of London, on the second December, 1879.

M. W. Bro. Rev. G. R. Portal, acting as Grand Master.

We make the following extracts from the Report of the "General Board:"—

"The number of Certificates issued during the six months, ending 30th September last, is 496, making the total of Registered Advancements 12,908.

"In the same period five Warrants for new Lodges have been issued, viz:—

245	Simon de St. Liz	Northampton.
246	Duke of Connaught	Derby
247	Alfred	Oxford (City).
248	Broadley	Malta.
249	Empress of India	Woolahra, N. S. Wales.

"During the year ending 30th September, there have been issued 167 Certificates for Royal Ark Mariners, the Register showing the total number of brethren elevated to this degree to be 507; and thirteen Warrants for new Lodges have been issued, viz:—

Mount Horeb, attached to St. John's Lodge, T.I., Bolton.			
Carnarvon,	"	Carnarvon	" No. 7 London.
United Manchester,	"	St. Andrew's	" " 34 Manchester.
Mount Ararat,	"	Fidelity	" " 98 Lahore.
Panmure,	"	Panmure	" " 139 Balham.
Grosvenor,	"	Grosvenor	" " 144 London.
Olive Branch,	"	Lebanon	" " 207 Allahabad.
St. Wilfrid's,	"	St. Wilfrid's	" " 209 Alford.
Ararat,	"	Ardvoirlich	" " 219 Rawal Pindi.
Axe,	"	St. John's	" " 221 Meean Meer.
Refuge,	"	Garnet	" " 228 Dinapore.
Brixton,	"	Brixton	" " 234 Brixton.
Sanc Elmo,	"	Broadley	" " 248 Malta.

"The Treasurer's accounts, subjoined, show that the Receipts from all sources for six months were £545 2s. 4d., and that on the 30th September the balances were:—

"In favor of the General Fund.....	£154 12 9
" " Benevolent Fund.....	42 16 5
" " Educational Fund.....	90 13 0

"While investments have been made—

"On account of Benevolent Fund.....	£200 0 0
" " Educational Fund.....	200 0 0
" " General Fund.....	200 0 0

"That the objects proposed by the establishment of the Benevolent and Educational Funds are widely and increasingly appreciated and approved is convincingly manifested by the support extended thereto at the Anniversary Festivals, the Festival held at the Alexandra Palace, on Wednesday, 2nd July last, under the presidency of W. Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, Prov. S. G. W. of Sussex, having proved most successful, the proceeds of the thirty-two Stewards' Lists amounting to £542.

"The first election of a boy for the benefits of the Educational Fund took place on the 20th of May last, when Harry Lowndes Edwards was elected, and is now being educated at the Manchester Grammar School.

"Two new Provinces have been constituted:—

"Tunis and Malta.

"Berks and Oxon.

"Bro. Alexander Meyrick Broadley has been appointed as R. W. Prov. G. Master of the former, and was installed at Malta on the 11th of September.

"No event of greater interest in the history of this Grand Lodge has occurred than the establishment of a Mark Lodge, in the first place, and recently of a Province, in a locality rich in so many antiquarian associations as the site of the world-renowned City of Carthage. Masonry in all its branches is flourishing there, but no degree has attracted so much attention, or has been pursued with such avidity, as that of the Mark, and with the details and information received from time to time, the Board considers itself justified in thus making prominent mention of so exceptionally gratifying a circumstance, and in testifying to the zeal and ability of the R. W. Bro. Broadley, whose exertions have tended so materially to produce such successful results.

"The Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, P. G. W., has accepted the appointment of Prov. G. Master of Berks and Oxon, and there can be no doubt as to the beneficial effect of his Lordship's rule, supported by the ability and energy of the brethren who have been instrumental in fostering the Order in the United Province. * * *

"It is also with extreme gratification that the Board is enabled to report the re-organization of the Province of Jamaica under the vigilant care of R. W. Bro. Dr. Hamilton (33°), and the consequent resuscitation of the Sussex Lodge, No. 42, followed by the establishment of three new Lodges—

"Clifton Mount Keystone, Kingston, No. 230.

"Royal Keystone, Kingston, No. 240.

"Phoenix, Port Royal, No. 242.

"All of which are now in a flourishing condition, with every prospect of continued prosperity.

"The Board have very great pleasure in stating that official information of the recognition of this Grand Lodge by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland has been received, a copy of the communication from the Grand Scribe E. being subjoined. It affords the Board the highest possible satisfaction thus to announce the consummation of efforts extending over a number of years, to effect a friendly understanding and fraternal agreement between the two Bodies " * * * * *

"Formal communications with recognition have also been received from the Supreme R. A. Chapters of Maine, Texas, and North Carolina, U. S. A.

"The Board have had under their consideration the arrangement of the work in the G. Secretary's office. They are of opinion that the eminent and lengthened services of the G. Secretary deserve that he should be excused from attending to the daily routine of the ever-increasing business of the office, and at the same time that he should retain his full salary."

All the recommendations of the General Board were adopted.

A question of precedence was raised as to the position of the Assistant Grand Secretary, who, before his appointment, was a Past Master Overseer, and the Grand Master decided that a Past Officer of superior rank, choosing to take an inferior position, should not lose the higher rank.

The next Half-yearly Communication was held on June 1st, 1880.

M. W. Bro. W. W. Beach, acting as Grand Master.

The Report of the General Board shows continual advancement, and a very gratifying degree of prosperity:—

"The number of Certificates issued during the six months ending 31st March, 1880, has been 606, bringing the total number of Registered Advancements to 13,514.

"In the same period Warrants for new Lodges have been issued as follows:—

- No. 40, Shakespeare, Warwick.
- " 44, Florence Nightingale, Woolwich.
- " 250, Darlington, Darlington.
- " 251, Tenterden, Buckhurst Hill
- " 252, Natalia, Pietermaritzburg, Natal.
- " 253, Spes Bona, Port Elizabeth, Cape of Good Hope.
- " 254, St Louis, Goletta, Tunis.
- " 255, Robinson, Maidstone.
- " 256, Five Arches, Oenby.
- " 257, Jersey, Maidenhead.
- " 258, Sutlej, Ferozepore, Punjab.
- " 259, Snowdonia, Portmadoc.
- " 260, Comet, Emerald, Queensland.
- " 261, Zealandia Marine, Port Chalmers, N. Z.

"One hundred and forty-four Certificates of Elevation to the degree of Royal Ark Mariner have been also issued, and two Warrants for new Lodges, viz:—

"The Natalia, attached to Mark Lodge Natalia, No. 252.

"The Charles V., attached to Mark Lodge St. Louis, No. 254.

"The Province of South Wales has been placed under the charge of the Grand Registrar."

The thanks of the Grand Lodge were voted to Bro. Dr. Passawer, the head-master of the Notting Hill High School, for his very liberal offer of a Scholarship of the annual value of fifteen guineas, to be placed at the disposal of the Board, who may nominate, from time to time, a boy to be educated there.

M. W. Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom, P. G. (Lord Skelmersdale), was re-elected Grand Master; and

R. W. Bro. Frederick Binckes, Grand Secretary.

ALABAMA.

The Fifty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery, December 7th, 1860.

M. E. Comp. James H. Joiner, G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph H. Johnson was present as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

In his address, the Grand High Priest sees cause for thankfulness in the condition of the Craft. They have been mercifully preserved from any devastating scourge, as well as from any influence calculated to disorganize our ancient and beloved Institution; or impair its usefulness.

We quote one of his decisions:—

"The following question has been asked: 'Has the High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter the right and authority to issue a penal summons, when he may deem the good of his Chapter requires it?'

"*Answer.*—He has. Every Mason solemnly agrees to obey all due signs and summons. This is one of the first lessons impressed upon him, and certainly implies the right in some one to issue a summons, and to decide when it is necessary for the good of the Craft. This power has always been vested in the head, either of a Chapter or a Lodge, and it is the prerogative of these officers to decide this question for themselves, and act in conformity with their convictions in the premises.

"In Mitchell's Common Law of Masonry, pages 352-3, it is said: 'We hold that neither a Lodge nor the Grand Lodge has the power to withhold from the Master of a Lodge the right to summon the members to meet him in their Lodge room at any time he may designate, provided a reasonable time is allowed for obedience to the summons. Of course we must be understood as holding that, while the right to summon at all times is clearly in the hands of the Master, he has no legal or moral right to abuse that power.' This we believe to be universally acknowledged as the Common Law of Masonry, and applies as well to Chapters as to Lodges. But it should be distinctly understood that the High Priest is always amenable to the Grand Chapter for any abuse of this high power."

He reports the appointment of R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada, and takes pleasure in stating that he has been received and accepted as such.

The Committee on the Address of the Grand High Priest believe that the interchange of Representatives tends to promote the feeling of community of interest and purpose so very desirable in so extended an association.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Resolved*,—That all Chapters the charters of which have been forfeited for the non-payment of dues, be, and the same are hereby, authorized to re-organize, elect officers, and continue to work, until the Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1881, when, if their dues are paid for that year, they shall be fully reinstated."

"*Resolved*,—That the High Priests of the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction be required to go through with all the opening and closing ceremonies, except when prevented by very emergent circumstances."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. P. J. Pillans, and notices Canada for 1880.

Comp. Pillans thinks there should be no law requiring continuance of membership in a Lodge as requisite to a proper standing in a Chapter, and under "California," he says:—

"We know of no *suspension* of a Lodge or Chapter, and the term should not have been used. But, in this jurisdiction, if a Lodge shall fail to send representatives to the Grand Lodge for a specified period (two years), or shall fail to pay its dues to the Grand Body for the same period, the Lodge forfeits its charter. Now a member in good standing in a Lodge which has so forfeited its charter becomes simply

by the decease of his Lodge an unaffiliated Mason—his standing in his Chapter not being affected thereby. This is what was meant by the term used by our G. H. Priest—nothing more. So we do not “*suspend whole families*,” but exercise the acknowledged right of discipline.”

On the effect of Lodge suspension, he has the following:—

“In this jurisdiction, so long as the G. Lodge was silent as to the effect of suspension for non-payment of dues, the Grand Chapter determined that when occurring in a Lodge it did not affect the standing of the member in his Chapter, but so soon as the G. Lodge declared that it cut the brother off from all Masonic rights and benefits, the G. Chapter declared that it also deprived him during such suspension of all Chapter rights.”

M. E. Comp. James H. Joiner (Talladega), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre (Montgomery), Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The thirtieth Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, October 7th, 1879:

R. E. Comp. George Thornburgh, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding.

For some reason which does not appear, the Grand Chapter was “called off” until the 20th November, when it re-assembled, and the Grand High Priest delivered his Annual Address.

He mentions the death of Comp. William D. Blocher, who served as Grand Secretary for three terms, and was held in high esteem.

On their condition and prospects, he says:—

“We have to thank Him who for ever reigns, for ever presides, that, as a rule, health, happiness, peace and prosperity have been the fortunate lot of the people in our jurisdiction. While some of our friends have sickened and died, and in some localities crops have been rather short, yet the year has been one of general good health, and abundant crops have rewarded the husbandman’s toil. The great Southern staple has yielded largely, and good prices are being realized. Of the staff of life, we have an abundance—food is cheap and accessible to all. While other countries have been smitten by famine and pestilence, we have been highly blessed, and have much to be sincerely thankful for. We look for better times, under the continued blessings

of Heaven; our people who have toiled under burthens of debt will throw off their loads, and with general prosperity in the country our Chapters will prosper more, their financial conditions will improve, and they will pay up all arrearages and take a new lease on prosperity.

"So far as our personal observations have extended over the Craft, and according to the reports made to us by our Grand Lecturer and special deputies, together with the reports made to our Grand Secretary by the various Chapters, we are justified in pronouncing Royal Arch Masonry in Arkansas to be in a healthy, growing condition. A number of Chapters considered dead, or almost so, at our last Annual Convocation, have been revived and gone to work with fair prospects of a bright future. Our delinquent list has been greatly reduced, and if any dead branches remain, it will become your duty at this session to cut them off, that the living branches may flourish the more."

He granted Dispensations for three new Chapters.

The Report of the Committee on Masonic Law and Usage was adopted, as follows :—

"1. In deciding that the Chapter degrees could not be conferred upon credit, the M. E. Grand High Priest but announced the settled law. Section 2 of Article 5 of the Uniform Code of By-laws provides that the fees for degrees must in every case accompany the petition; and by edict of 1854 this Grand Chapter declared that no Chapter degree shall be conferred until the fee is paid, and Chapters are prohibited from doing so. [See Proceedings of 1877, p. 66.] And by Section 7, Article 1 of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, it is provided that no credit shall be given for fees for conferring degrees in any Chapter or Lodge appendant under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

"2. A clause of the same section of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter provides that 'The fees in the several States for conferring the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason shall not be less than \$20.'

"Section 2 of Article 5 of our Uniform Code of By-laws leaves a blank to be filled by each subordinate Chapter, fixing the amount of fees to be charged for the degrees. It cannot, of course, be filled with less than \$20, and it is not the usage in this jurisdiction to fill it with less than about \$35.

"This Grand Chapter has not heretofore deemed it expedient to prescribe a uniform amount to be charged for the degrees, but has thought it safe to leave the matter to the sound discretion and prudence of the Companions of each Chapter, to be determined by them in view of their location and other circumstances surrounding them. We fully concur in the suggestions of the M. E. Grand High Priest that the degrees should not be made unusually cheap, with the view of competing for candidates. On the one hand due respect should be paid to the value and dignity of the degrees, and on the other to the condition and means of worthy applicants of the particular community in which the Chapter is located. Cheap Masonry is apt to result in poor Masonry. We think, upon the whole, that the matter may be safely entrusted, as heretofore, to the sound discretion and prudence of the Companions of the several Chapters.

"3. The M.E. Grand High Priest was right in deciding that he could not restore a charter which had been revoked by the Grand Chapter, in the absence of a delegation of authority to him by the Grand Chapter empowering him to do so. He was also right in declining to grant the Companions of the defunct Chapter a dispensation to open a new Chapter upon any condition not warranted by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Chapter. This Grand Chapter, as he well indicated, may restore the charter to the Companions, on their application, and doubtless would do so upon a showing that the causes and delinquencies for which the charter was revoked had been removed and made square, and that the Companions have the ability and will to do good work, and discharge their constitutional and Masonic duties in the future.

"The Committee congratulate the M. E. Grand High Priest, and the whole Royal Craft of this jurisdiction, on the fact that he has had so few questions of Masonic law and usage presented to him for decision during the current Masonic year. This indicates a healthful growth of intelligence among the officers and Companions of our Chapters."

We also copy the Report of the Committee on Education :—

"Your Committee on Education take pleasure in reporting that at no time in the history of our State has the subject of education been more thoroughly agitated than the past year. Men whose hearts are in the work have stirred the people. The better judgment of men has taken the upper seat, and the education of the rising generation seems to be the great object of parents, citizens and law-makers. Commerce and finance have resumed the busy airs of yore. Factories, stores and farms seem to have new life in them.

"Amid all this bustle and stir the schoolhouse has not been forgotten. Every city has its college, every town its high school and every district its common school. Probably no child in Arkansas to-day lives out of walking distance of a school. Men realize that they can leave no legacy to their children so rich as a mind trained and prepared for a successful contest with the obstacles in the pathway of man, and for an intelligent enjoyment of life.

"This great interest in schools is not confined to any particular locality, but the whole State appears to be affected with a general uprising in the demand for an educated generation to fill our places.

"Among the many evidences of this forward movement is the increased interest manifested for St. John's College. We understand that there are now considerably over one hundred students in attendance, and the beneficiary list is full. The Trustees ask no appropriation for the College, but solicit the sympathy and encouragement of the fraternity. We hope that it will receive both.

"We have no recommendation to make."

The time of the meeting of the Grand Chapter was changed to the Friday preceding the fourth Tuesday of November.

The thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Little Rock, November 19th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. M. M. McGuire, G. H. P.

He reports one new Chapter, and one revived. He appointed R. E. Comp. John McLaren as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada. We quote the following excellent remarks :—

“So far as my information extends—and judging from such reports as have come to hand—I am able to report Capitular Masonry in Arkansas to be in a healthy condition. While comparatively few stones have been laid in the walls, the material has been of the best character; and while only one Dispensation has been granted for a new Chapter, the old have been placed on a more solid and enduring basis. Our list of delinquent Chapters has been greatly reduced during the past two or three years, and for their future prosperity we are quite hopeful.

“New orders and attractive societies have sprung up within the past few years all over the land, and beneficiary systems have been the rage to such an extent as to cause some apprehension in the minds of a few worthy Companions, that Masonry would wane, unless it followed off in the wake of new systems. But we have no fears; nor do we favor such innovations on the body of Masonry. Our institution stands on higher ground. Its grand lessons inculcate benevolence, and influence acts of relief from principle, and not of debt. It teaches its votaries to do right, because it is right to do so. To succor the needy; to relieve the distressed; to bind up the broken heart, and pour consolation into the wounded spirit, because it is noble and God-like to do so. To cultivate the nobler parts of our nature and build on the sure foundation of principle, is our work, and the world was made better because of our existence and our mission. To cement the bands of enduring friendship, and cultivate a spirit of sympathy for the weak and the fallen; to strengthen the ties of universal Brotherhood, and arouse the nobler faculties of manhood. To cause men to stand erect, symmetrical in form, pure in life, and God-like in deeds, is the mission of Masonry. From its teachings the good of other societies follows, and for our stability we have nothing to fear while builded on such a rock. Let others go their way, we will go ours, and see in the end which accomplish the most good and stand unshaken by time the longest. We have no objections to the plans of other organizations; in their place they do good, and we bid them God-speed; but let us keep in our place, and all will be well.

“During the year no questions of very grave importance have come before me to settle. My decisions have, therefore, been few and unimportant. Peace and good order appear to prevail among the Companions, and the Chapters are undisturbed by dissensions.”

The Grand Lecturer found most of the Chapters doing well, and in a healthy condition, but not doing much work,

partly for want of money, and partly because of so many other Orders, especially Insurance Societies.

The following is the Report of the Committee on Education :—

“ Your Committee on Education have considered the subject matter intrusted to them, and report :

“ That, beyond a general recommendation of all proper efforts to diffuse light and intelligence as a duty owing from Masons, as well as all other good citizens, to the rising generation and society, this Grand Chapter has not considered it practical nor useful to engage in any special educational movement, save the support and encouragement of St. John's College.

“ This institution is under the immediate control of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State, which appoints Trustees for its management, and will doubtless take all proper measures to sustain it, and promote its beneficent designs. For information in detail, with regard to the work of the Trustees and the condition and prospects of the College, we think it sufficient to refer to the reports of the Trustees, and of the Committee on Education in the Grand Lodge, soon to convene here. We are advised that these documents will show the College to be still at work, and carrying out its design to afford the advantages of education to the children of all worthy Masons who may be entrusted to its charge. Nothing is asked of this Grand Chapter, and no action we can take is likely to add to the zeal or efficiency of those who, under the authority of the Grand Lodge, have the matter in charge.”

The Grand Chapter of Quebec was recognized.

M. E. Comp. George Thornburgh (Powhatan), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. L. E. Barber (Little Rock), Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

The twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at San Francisco, April 12th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Wiley J. Tinnin, Grand High Priest.

He reports two new Chapters. We quote as follows:—

“ We meet to-day, and can congratulate each other on the continued prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in our jurisdiction. The Supreme Ruler of the Universe has been indulgent during the past year in showering His blessings upon us. We have had an abundant supply of refreshing rain for our valleys, and beautiful snow for our mountains. The granary of the farmer has been filled with the cereal, and his

cellar with the vegetable and fruit productions of our soil. The melting snows from our mountains, controlled by the sturdy arm of the miner, have separated the precious metals from the earth, and our commerce is reinvigorated with the sinews of trade. The hum and clatter of industry has been heard in every quarter; and amid all this display of intelligence, industry, and ingenuity, the Royal Craft stands among the front ranks, receiving its accessions, promulgating its principles, and dispensing its charities to its unfortunate members, and the widow and fatherless, throughout the earth." * *

"I desire to call your attention to what might be properly termed speculative schemes of subordinate Chapters—in building expensive halls—purchasing expensive paraphernalia—beyond their ordinary means. While we should strictly adhere to the principle of the autonomy of subordinate Chapters as regards the expenditure of their funds for legitimate Masonic purposes, yet there should be some limit to the contracting of debts where the ultimate result will be to ruin them financially, and jeopardize their usefulness and standing in the communities in which they exist. While this is a delicate subject for this Grand Body to deal with—one in which there is great danger of trenching on reserved rights—yet its great importance to the Fraternity at large demands that something should be done, either by legislation or a warning of the evils resulting from such schemes."

On Cryptic Masonry, the Committee reported that as the General Grand Chapter has declined to unite the Chapter and Council Degrees, all action heretofore had by the Grand Chapter amounts to nothing, and they recommended that no further proceedings be had in relation thereto. This report was adopted.

The following report was also adopted:—

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the proposed amendment to Section 5 of Article XVII of the Constitution which now reads: 'No Chapter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than fifty dollars, and in every case the entire fee shall accompany the application,' so that it shall read as follows: 'No Chapter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than thirty dollars, and in every case the entire fee shall accompany the application,' have considered the subject, and submit the following report:—

"Your Committee are of the opinion that fifty dollars is the smallest sum for which any Chapter in this State ought to be willing to confer the degrees, and that if our Chapters can afford to make any reduction, let them do it by reducing or dispensing with monthly dues of members. Suspensions for non-payment of dues have been a constant source of complaint for many years, and if some practicable method can be devised by which the Chapters could maintain themselves without requiring the payment of dues, it would certainly be desirable that it should be adopted.

"Your Committee, therefore, recommend that the proposed amendment be not adopted."

The Charter of Lakeport Chapter was revoked, and it was resolved that no Chapter under Dispensation should receive a Charter, unless it was free from debt.

The Grand Secretary presented an extensive and elaborate report on correspondence, in which our Proceedings for 1880 receive a good notice.

In his notice of the District of Columbia, we find the following:—

“We remember some fifty years ago, it was the custom of some Lodges in conferring the degree of Entered Apprentice to open on the Master's degree, call off and open a Lodge of Fellow Crafts, again call off and open a Lodge of Entered Apprentices, confer the degree, close the Lodge, call on the Lodge of Fellow Crafts, close that, and finally call on the Lodge of Master Masons, and close that. This was called “opening down and closing up,” and about one half the evening was occupied in the ceremony of opening and closing. We were not aware, however, that any Lodge at the present day adhered to this custom of the dark ages. We would say to Comp. Larner that the “absurdity” is just as strong in one instance as in the other; and the announcement that there are Lodges which still adhere to this practice is a revelation to us. We venture to assert that they are few and far between.

“Comp. Larner's idea that a Lodge of Mark Master Masons can be opened without the Royal Arch Masons being notified that such a Lodge is to be held,” is easily confuted by the fact that no notice to Mark Masters is ever issued, except in Pennsylvania or England, where the Mark Lodges are independent of the Chapters. A meeting of the Chapter is invariably called; for what purpose is not definitely stated, except upon special occasions; then if the business is to confer the Mark Master's degree, the High Priest announces the fact, and proceeds to open a Lodge of Mark Masters; and exactly the same course is pursued in the Lodges.”

On Lodge suspension, he says:—

“He decided that a Companion's relations in the Chapter are not affected by his suspension in the Lodge for non-payment of dues. If in Maine they have different degrees of suspension, with graduated penalties, the decision may be correct; but to us, it appears to defeat the very object of the law which prescribes suspension as a penalty for the non-payment of dues. The idea is, to force recreant members to the performance of their duty; and there are too many in every jurisdiction who would willingly submit to suspension by their Lodges, provided they could still retain their membership in the Chapter, Council and Commandery. By this means they escape all the hard work of Masonry, and yet enjoy all the benefits of the Masonic relation. In the Chapter the calls of charity are seldom heard, the sick and distressed are not cared for, nor the dead buried, for all this is

done by the Lodge. The suspended non-contributor, therefore, escapes all the responsibilities incumbent upon his more worthy and conscientious brethren, and is perfectly willing that they bear the burden and heat of the day while he refreshes himself beneath the genial shade of the Royal Arch. In California we have but one quality of suspension, and that is the pure, unadulterated, original article, that means just what it says, and soon brings the unwilling and neglectful member to terms. We think the decision is unjust to the Lodges, and we maintain that the principle upon which it is based is wrong, even though so high an authority as Comp. Drummond sustains it."

Under the head of "Nebraska," Comp. Caswell gives the correct interpretation of the decision of the General Grand Chapter on the question of the union of the Council degrees with those of the Chapter:—

"It is singular with what facility the 'mergers' interpret this resolution of the General Grand Chapter to suit their own purposes. The governing body of Capitular Masonry declares that it 'has no jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master.' Very true; neither has it over the degrees of symbolic or Templary Masonry, yet it declares the degrees which it recognizes and which shall be conferred by the Chapters under its jurisdiction. The plain inference is, that no others are to be conferred. Is it necessary for the General Grand Chapter to specify in terms to its subordinates, the degrees which they may not confer? That would require a volume of negative commandments: Thou shalt not go astray after strange degrees. Thou shalt take no heed to the calls of the Odd Fellows, and when the Knights of Pythias beseech thee, verily thou shalt turn aside. Dazzle not thine eyes with the brilliancy of the Eastern Star, and beware of the seductive delusions of the Thousand and One, for verily, pride goeth before a fall, and thou shalt spend thy time in vain; and thus it would be necessary to go on with prohibitions *ad infinitum*."

Under "New Jersey," he says:—

"He is fully in accord with us, relative to the relation of the appendant Lodges to the Chapters. He can see no justice in 'charging a Companion with dues while under the ban of suspension.' Our theory is, that no Companion should be allowed to take advantage of his own wrong. A member may be suspended for non-payment of dues, and remain in that condition for twenty years, being all this time perfectly able to discharge his liabilities to the Chapter; but, feeling no interest either in it or the Order; so long as prosperity smiles upon him he makes no effort to renew his membership. But a time comes when adversity overtakes him. His riches have 'taken to themselves wings,' and he feels, perhaps, that to be a member of the Chapter would pecuniarily, or otherwise, benefit him. Is he then to return, and for the paltry sum he owed at the date of his suspension, resume all his rights to participate in the store which his more faithful companions have been accumulating during all these years, when, had he done his duty to the Chapter, that store had been augmented in the sum of

twenty years' dues? We say, no. The whole theory of suspension for non-payment of dues is—not to punish the recreant member, for he can release himself from that purgatory at his own will and pleasure—but to force him to do that which is his bounden duty, and which, in his obligation, he has faithfully promised to do, viz., to comply with the by-laws of his Chapter. In California we are determined that all the officers and crew on board our Royal Arch Craft shall either fish, cut bait, or go ashore."

Comp. Caswell is an able writer, and his comments are always direct, and to the point. We regret not being able to extract more from this valuable report.

M. E. Comp. Henry S. Orme (Los Angeles), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Thomas H. Caswell (San Francisco), Grand Secretary.

COLORADO.

The Sixth Annual Convocation was held at Denver, September 23rd, 1880.

M. E. Comp. John R. Hambel, G. H. P.

The address is short, and confined to local affairs. He issued one dispensation for a new Chapter. He appointed M. E. Comp. L. H. Henderson as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada. He mentions the selection of Denver as the place of the next meeting of the General Grand Chapter in 1883.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was adopted:—

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence to whom was referred the question of recognition of Pennsylvania Mark Master Masons, have to report that we have been unable to inform ourselves as to the status of said Mark Masters in their own State, or of the jurisdiction under which said Mark Lodges are organized or by what Masonic body controlled. We therefore recommend that until such time as their legal Masonic standing shall be established such alleged Mark Masters be not recognized. Should a brother claiming recognition as a Mark Master satisfy the Chapter to which he may apply as to his legal Masonic standing as such, he may be recognized accordingly, being first formally healed before advancement to the succeeding degree."

The Special Committee in the matter of Comp. Byers, and the Grand Chapter of Missouri, presented the following report, which was adopted:—

“We, the Special Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest’s address relating to that part of Comp. Byers’ report on African Grand R. A. Chapter of Missouri in annual report of 1878, would respectfully report that we have read Comp. Byer’s report, and the criticisms of the Grand High Priest of Missouri, wherein he suggests that the commission of Comp. Byers’ be revoked; also, the report of the committee endorsing said suggestion; and while we acknowledge with sorrow that the Grand Chapter of Missouri was justified in that action, we would plead for Comp. Byers that no insult was intended, and that he, as well as this Grand Chapter, do disown any recognition of African Masonry; and we would further recommend that that portion of Comp. Byers’ correspondence relating to African Masonry be expunged from the records.”

Comp. R. W. Woodbury reports on correspondence, and notices Canada for 1879 and 1880.

M. E. Comp. John S. Titcomb, (Boulder,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, (Georgetown,) Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

The eighty-third Annual Convocation was held at New Haven, May 10, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Dwight Phelps, G. H. P.

Harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction, and the Companions devote themselves loyally to promoting the prosperity of the Royal Craft.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

“*Resolved*,—That at the next Annual Convocation there be required to be paid to the Grand Chapter, from each Subordinate Chapter, the sum of twenty cents for each member on its roll, under provision of section 4 particular regulations.”

“*Resolved*,—That this Grand Chapter appropriate to the Committee on Correspondence, one hundred dollars, (\$100.00.)

“To the Grand Tyler, ten dollars, (\$10.00)

“For the use of the hall for the present Convocation, twenty-five dollars, (\$25 00).”

One Chapter is heavily in debt, and in the report of a committee we find words of warning, which deserve to be remembered:—

“The condition of this Chapter is a commentary on the haste with which Charters have been granted during the history of this Grand Body in fields where it was apparent to the most casual observer that a Chapter could live and thrive for a few years only, ending in discredit and dishonor to our Institution.

“In view of this condition of Mossup Chapter and believing it to be the best course for all parties concerned, we offer the following resolution:—

“*Resolved.*—That the Grand Council of Officers be requested to take charge of Mossup Chapter, No. 37, and take such measures as they shall deem best to liquidate its indebtedness, and place it upon a solid footing. Failing this, that they be requested to arrest the Charter, and reclaim its property and effects to the Grand Chapter.”

Comp. John H. Barlow has an excellent report on Correspondence. Canada for 1880 receives kindly mention. We were in error last year in stating that a form of devotional exercises for opening and closing the Grand Chapter was adopted. The proposal was made, but it was rejected.

M. E. Comp. Charles W. Skiff (New Haven), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Joseph K. Wheeler (Hartford), Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The thirteenth Annual Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 19th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. John W. Lawson, G. H. P.

Nothing has occurred during the past year to disturb the peace and harmony of the Royal Craft in this State.

The death is mentioned of Comp. General A. T. A. Torbert, Past Grand Secretary, who was a passenger on the ill-fated steamer *City of Vera Cruz*, which was wrecked during a terrible gale off the coast of Florida, on August 29th, 1880.

In the interests of two Chapters having a scattered mem-

bership, a memorial was sent to the General Grand Chapter, asking for a modification of the rule requiring nine members of the Chapter to be present in order to transact business. The request was denied.

The G. H. P. appointed R. E. Comp. Thomas C. Macnabb as their Representative near Canada, and R. E. Comp. George F. Young was received as our Representative near Delaware.

The following report was adopted:—

“Your Committee to whom was referred the question of conferring the Council Degrees upon Chapter members, respectfully report:—That as the General Grand Chapter of the United States at its last Triennial Convocation, decided that it had no jurisdiction over the Council Degrees; therefore, your committee deem it inexpedient for this Grand Chapter to take any action in relation to the same.”

Comp. William G. W. Lewis reports on correspondence, and notices our proceedings for 1880.

M. E. Comp. John W. Lawson (Wilmington), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. H. B. McIntire (Wilmington), Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The fourteenth Annual Convocation was held at Washington, Dec. 8, 1880.

M. E. Comp. M. Trimble, G. H. P.

The address of the Grand High Priest is an interesting and well-written document, and it contains food for reflection for all. In his opening remarks he has the following on the condition of the Craft in the District:—

“From all that I can learn from reliable information and frequent visitations to the constituent Chapters, I am well satisfied that Capitular Masonry is daily increasing in strength and power, and steadily growing in the esteem and confidence of all good men.

“The regularly accepted standard of Masonic perfection throughout

the world, being also the rule and guide of our faith in this jurisdiction our membership is being made up of the wisest and best of citizens, and we feel justly proud that we form part of that noble Royal Craft, which makes an unbroken mystic chain, that encircles the globe and exercises such a gentle, unostentatious, humanizing influence among brethren and Companions, who can, from their hearts, say 'Holiness to the Lord.'

"The officers and members of our Grand Chapter, who were with us at our last Annual Convocation, we thank the 'God of Abraham,' are yet living, and are with us to-night to join in counsel with unbroken ranks. Who will first receive the awful summons, and whose will be the first obituary the Great Jehovah only can tell.

"As it was my great pleasure to report last year, so I report to-night, that harmony has prevailed in our councils, and material prosperity has attended your efforts to extend the knowledge of the sublime truths which our ritual inculcates. The officers of the several Chapters are Companions of unexceptionable character, ability and capacity, and have exhibited a zeal and ardent devotion to their work during the past year which is truly commendable. To the officers and Companions of the constituent Chapters I return my most sincere thanks for the very courteous and fraternal manner in which I was received on all occasions."

They have an excellent custom of making annual visitations to the several Subordinate Chapters, at each of which visits addresses are delivered by prominent members of the Craft. A pleasing feature of one of these occasions was the presentation to the Grand Chapter of a portrait of Comp. N. D. Larner. The following is the account given by the Grand High Priest:—

"In accordance with the usual custom, and as prescribed by our Constitution, I made the 'annual visitations' to our constituent Chapters; and following, also, the pleasant, agreeable and expected feature as started by my predecessors in office, I invited Companions of recognized ability, and those whom I was well satisfied were capable not only of entertaining, but instructing those of us who were in the habit of attending these visitations.

"It is needless for me to say that my hopes and expectations were fully realized. In addition to the high encomiums which have been passed on all these lectures, I desire to extend my own personal thanks to these Companions for their kind acceptance of my invitation, and the high standard of moral perfection which was so ably maintained, and eloquently advocated in each address.

* * * * *

"In this connection, I desire to say that at each of these visitations we were assured by the grand officers especially designated for that purpose, that the books and records of the several Chapters, with one exception, had been kept in strict conformity with the rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter, and our venerable Treasurer, for whom

we all have such a profound regard and respect, and our Secretary, who is recognized as a model of neatness and accuracy, both testified to the neatness and accuracy of the several returns.

"At the above mentioned visitation to Lafayette Chapter—on last evening—in addition to the usual interesting ceremonies attending these occasions, this Chapter, through one of its Past High Priests (Ross), presented to this Grand Chapter in behalf of the artist (Chas. Armor), a well-executed oil painting of P. G. High Priest, Noble D. Larner. In presenting the picture, Companion Ross spoke in eulogistic terms of Companion Larner. In the name and in behalf of this Grand Chapter, I accepted the gift, and stated in substance that I believed the original of the picture was worthy and well deserving of the compliments and high encomiums which were bestowed upon him. I ask that you take such action in this matter as you may deem appropriate and advisable.

"In addition to the above, I have made frequent visitations to the different Chapters, and on all occasions have been received with that respect which is due to the position of Grand High Priest, and with fraternal courtesy."

On Masonry in general, Comp. Trimble says:—

"From time immemorial spasmodic efforts have been made by those unacquainted with the solemn mysteries of our fraternity, and others whose hopes and aspirations for office preferment were for some reasons overlooked, and still others from bad hearts and evil designs, to bring our order into disrepute and disfavor. These misguided enthusiasts have been foiled in their evil designs, not because we have taken any steps to defeat them, or have organized any secret force to divert their attention, but because the principles of Freemasonry are founded on the eternal rock of Truth, and he who attacks one fortress will have to fight the 'God of battles.'

"Royal Arch Masonry pursues its onward, steady course, and outside opposition only tends to keep our guards on watchful duty and our sentinels from slumbering on their posts.

"Disregarding the old-fashioned superstitions and hobgoblin stories of 'hot irons and ancient goats' with which the vulgar mind associates the name of Freemasonry, we can tell the honest public, in truth and sincerity, that in all that beautiful ritual, from the Mark Master up to and including our Sublime Royal Arch, there is not one word spoken, one sentence uttered which could wound the most sensitive ear, or bring the blush of shame to the cheeks of the purest maiden; and although concealed from public gaze and general comment, our esoteric work is full of sublime thought and replete with great moral lessons, and our candidates, as they advance in the several degrees, are constantly admonished to curb ambition, to depress envy, to moderate anger, to encourage good dispositions, to be immovable in the discharge of their respective duties, to correct each others failings by advice, admonition and reproof; to be good fathers, to be good sons, to be good husbands, and to contemplate with supreme gratitude and admiration the sacred source from whence all earthly comforts flow, 'whence arises among good Masons that comely order,'

"Which nothing earthly gives, or can destroy,
The soul's calm sunshine, and the heartfelt joy."

"Many there are, who, unprogressive in their proclivities, and unwilling to acknowledge the great triumph of Freemasonry, and blinded by fanaticisms, and seeing only a slight counter current in the great river of Masonic progress, exclaim: 'Masonry is a failure.' So the ignorant spectator standing on the banks of the great Mississippi, and observing only the counter-current formed by a sharp bend in the river, exclaimed, in the ecstasy of a new discovery, 'The river flows backwards!' And so the owl, sitting among the budding branches in the early spring, whose unexpansive eyes are unable to realize the gorgeous beauties of a rising sun, blinks and winks at the unusual brightness, and appears to say, 'This sunlight is a failure, after all;' and yet the great river moves steadily onward undisturbed, adding moral strength, health, courage and vitality throughout the whole civilized world, and the rising sun of popular favor still dazzles the eyes of the anti-Mason. In all modesty we can say that our fraternity has accomplished great and wonderful results. It has progressed pre-eminently in everything that conduces to the advancement and amelioration of the human race; but let us not, in our pride and prosperity, irreligiously say, 'Our hands have done this, and the might of our arm hath gained us these victories.' King Solomon—the great and good—forgot his humility and gave himself up to the pride of his own heart, and God was angry with him, and he brought sorrow and trouble on himself and on his people. As Royal Arch Masons—believing in a Supreme Being, believing in the Bible—let us humbly and at all times attribute our blessings, our grand triumphs and our victories to the true source; not to human genius and intellect alone, but to human genius and intellect inspired, controlled and guided by heavenly wisdom. We can be proud as King Solomon was proud when he stood in the presence of Israel at the door of the gold-lit temple, but let us imitate our Ancient Grand Master in lowliness of mind, and prostrate ourselves on the earth, and say, 'Not unto us, not unto us, oh Lord, but unto Thee be the praise.' "

Comp. John Lockie, the Grand Visitor and Lecturer, made 53 visits during the year. In his report, he says:—

"During the year that has just come to a close the several Chapters in this jurisdiction have been diligently engaged in spreading the cement of brotherly love and truth; for our science is a body of established truth, or systematized knowledge, reached by the application of a scientific method, by which process we investigate the highest zones of man's being, and thus illustrate all that can be known and comprehended by man of the relations that exist between the soul and its creator, for the divine will has been revealed to every Companion to profit withal. And thus our entire jurisdiction seems to be a perfect, complete and harmonious whole, which enables me to report that, in all its length, breadth, height and depth, the formulations thereof have been very gratifying."

A committee of seven members were appointed to revise the ritual.

Comp. N. D. Larner has another of his excellent reports

on correspondence, in which Canada for 1880 is noticed.

Under the head of "Alabama" he says:—

"We take the liberty of suggesting to our Companions of Alabama that, under the system in vogue in their jurisdiction, it will be found impossible to have a uniformity of work and the Companions well instructed. It is good to have a committee for the purpose of being the custodians of the work, but for the dissemination thereof you must have a competent lecturer, whose duty it must be to visit the Chapters and instruct them in the work. Appoint a competent lecturer, Companions, and we will guarantee that you will never regret it. By such a course you will instil new life into your Chapters, and create new interest in your membership."

M. E. Comp. Joseph H. Jochum (No. 1221, 16th st., N. W.), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. C. W. Hancock (No. 1440, Corcoran st., N. W.), Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Jacksonville, January 20th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Robert J. Perry, G. H. P.

From the very able Address of the Grand High Priest we take the following remarks, as worthy the attention of all our Companions:—

"It was a good custom among the Jews, our ancient brethren, and other nations, to set up stones as a memorial of a covenant, or any remarkable transaction; these structures never failed to call the circumstances up in the mind of the passers-by. The father told the son, and thus the story was conveyed from generation to generation, as long as the same people had possession of the country. It was a good custom to write the maxims of the law or moral sentences on pillars of stone by the highway, on the gate posts, and on household utensils, so that those going in and coming out might be in the way of instruction. Of what do our footprints in the sands of time speak?

"What impress have our distinctive marks left upon the minds and hearts of those who have come in and gone out under us in the Chapter room and out of it? Have we encouraged each other in the works of charity and benevolence, the unchangeable basis of our noble Order? Have we convinced the world, or any part of it, that we are Masons, because we are good men and true, honest and faithful to our engagements, Masonic and otherwise?

"I do not propose to weary you, Companions, with details of the excellences of our Royal Arch. With these you are supposed to be familiar; but there are a few reflections to which I desire to give utterance.

"To you, Most Excellent Companions, who have been called to the dignity, honor and responsibility of the government of Chapters, it belongs, in an especial manner, to watch over and correct the errors and abuses and vices, if such there be, of your subordinate officers and members, and to do this, it is indispensably necessary that you be vigilant, not only in comprehending your duty, but in its faithful performance. If the watchman on the Tower sleeps, there is but little security for the keepers of the Treasure. It is your duty, possessing a knowledge of the great and glorious outlines and landmarks of Masonry, its designs and tendencies, to harmonize the mind, root out superstitions and vulgar opinions, and implant in their room just and liberal conceptions of God, our neighbor and ourselves. Representing the point within the circle of light and truth, it is your peculiar duty and high privilege to spread and communicate light and instruction to the Companions of your Chapter.

"Be ye not content with the title of High Priest, which, in itself, is immaterial; fulfil its duties as the surest means of guarding your own rights and dignity and character, and of stopping the mouth of detraction and calumny. In unveiling the eyes of the blind and conducting them in paths they have not known, let it be your highest aim to disclose, in the most impressive manner, the sublime mysteries and principles of our Royal Arch. Be careful that the abuse of its various mystic rights and ceremonies leads not to a gross repugnance of the entire fabric, or mar its symmetrical proportions. Do you fully comprehend our profession? If not, your work will be imperfect in all its parts, and dangerous to those who aid in its construction, whether as apprentices or skilled laborers.

"And suffer me to add one piece of advice, which, I am persuaded, you will find no less advantageous for the good government of your Chapters than what I have already said, and that is, that all of us be exceeding careful in the admission of new members. We have all, perhaps, been too eager in this respect. When an applicant presents his petition, let us seriously consider whether his conduct in and attention to Blue Lodge be such as may, or may not, have a tendency to diminish the credit and honor of our Chapters. We are not respectable by reason of our numerical strength, but by the quality of the material with which we build. It is just as absurd to imagine that respectability consists in numbers, as that greatness consists in size or dimensions. There is, my Companions, an evil common in our fraternity, shameful in its practice, and disgraceful in its tendencies. I mean the detestable practice of swearing by and invoking the solemn name of the Great and Glorious God on the most trifling occasions. This vice, my Companions, has not one motive or inducement that I know of, to support the practice of it. The practice is vulgar, ungentlemanly, and devoid of the slightest excuse.

"Another point. There is a tendency towards knowledge in every mind. The reason of man is active and fruitful, still in pursuit of wisdom, and fitted for generous and enlarged ideas; it behoves us, therefore, to be *reading* Masons. No man can live within himself and be a man. He must know the world's estimate of a man and

his character, or he at once argues his own ignorance in matters of vital importance to himself. By this, I do not mean that you be simply conversant with the Masonic doings of your own jurisdiction, but provide yourselves with as many Masonic Magazines, Papers, &c., as you can pay for, and when you get them, read them, and read them carefully, and you will be amply repaid.

"One other matter, and of great moment, to which I would direct your attention. Be careful how you recommend the formation of a new Chapter. Be sure that those applying for Dispensation or Charter are in every way competent to properly discharge all the duties. If we are to be judged by our fruits, let us be careful how we plant."

The business transacted was entirely local.

The thirty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Jacksonville, January 18th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Robert J. Perry, G. H. P.

He reports two new Chapters, and that nothing has occurred to mar the harmony of the jurisdiction. He appointed R. E. Comp. James Moffat as their Representative near Canada.

The Grand Mark Lodge of England was recognized.

We are pleased to notice that R. E. Comp. W. M. Somerville, a former resident of Canada, and a Past Grand Superintendent of this Grand Chapter, was elected an honorary member of the Grand Chapter of Florida. Comp. Somerville now lives in Jacksonville, and we wish him all success in his new home.

M. E. Comp. W. A. McLean (Jacksonville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. D. C. Dawkins (Jacksonville), Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

The fifty eighth Annual Convocation was held at Atlanta, April 28th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. J. W. Oslin, G. H. P.

In his Address, Comp. Os'in refers in terms of severe condemnation to some of the more prominent vices of the day, and exhorts the Companions to uphold a pure standard of morality. We extract as follows:—

“ In view of prevailing evils, Masons should lift high their ancient banner and bring their lives up to its requirements. Our conduct, in all things, should be squared by the unbending rule of right. In the universal desert of corruption, let there be a green spot—a moral oasis where the weary may find repose. While all around us lie the *debris* of ruined fanes, let our temple rise clear, strong and beautiful—the joy of the whole earth.

“ All are architects of fate,
Working in the walls of time;
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme.”

“ Let our architecture represent the best material and the most practical and skilful workmanship. Let it grow noiselessly, with every stone quarried for its place, symmetrical in its proportions, palatial in splendor, fulfilling the ideal of the Great Master Builder. Let the Book be our compass and chart, and let its faithful teachings be exemplified in the faultless development of our manhood. The ancient marble cutter, in order to test the smoothness of his work, passed his thumb nail over its surface. If any asperity was detected, he did not consider the stone finished until it was removed. Thus originated the classic expression: “ *Ad unquem factus homo*,” a man formed to the nail—a blameless character. Such a result is only obtained after patient, untiring labor.

“ Character is a plant of slow growth. It must be watched, watered, and tended with painstaking care—with utmost diligence—if, in the coming years, we would gather its rich fruits. It must be built, stone by stone, layer by layer, from a solid foundation of truth and honesty. It must rise thus to the very capstone and pinnacle of its greatness, rounded and complete. Let us be up and doing, polishing the good deeds, quarrying the staunch principles which shall enter into this edifice and render it as enduring as the everlasting hills. Our Grand Order commends itself to the reverence of mankind, not more by its venerable age, its remarkable vitality and its incorruptible code, than by the personal purity of those who profess its tenets. The mysteries of Masonry should be interpreted by the blameless walk and active beneficence of its membership. Its sublime institutions and historic glory should not be allowed to pale in our hands. We should grow in moral stature to the full height of its requirements and in word and deed exemplify its beauties.

“ Demosthenes, when asked the secret of eloquence, answered ‘ Action, action, action.’ So, if we were expected to give an adequate response to the enquiry, ‘ where lie the highest honor and usefulness of Masonry?’ we should unhesitatingly reply, ‘ Discipline, discipline, discipline.’ Neglect of discipline is the cause of untold evils. It opens the flood-gates to a turbid tide of vice. It demoralizes the Chapters and destroys the efficiency of the Order. In my practice as a physician, I have learned that a festering cancer must be healed or

eliminated with the knife, if I would save the patient's life. If we tolerate these sores upon the body of Masonry, its blood will be poisoned, and, if that were possible, its life would be destroyed. Companions, in view of its importance, let me urge you to give your firm support to the enforcement of the regulations of the Order."

He decided that two substitutes could be used in conferring the Royal Arch Degree; also that only one ballot was necessary for all the Degrees, and that it must take place in the R. A. Degree; also, that it would be a violation of the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry to confer the Degrees upon any candidate who was not capable of giving or imparting instruction. The candidate in question was an applicant for the Capitular Degrees, and had lost an arm.

The following Report and Resolution from the Committee on Finance were adopted :—

"On examination, we believe the receipts of this Convocation will pay the outstanding scrip, and all the current expenses of this meeting. We, therefore, recommend that this scrip be paid in full, thus relieving the Grand Chapter of debt, and we are rejoiced to make this report, trusting that there is still a bright future ahead for this Grand Body.

"In order to expedite the business in future Convocations, we would recommend the passage of the following:

"*Resolved*.—That a standing Committee of three be appointed by the Grand High Priest, in the interior, to be known as the Committee on Finance and Returns, who shall meet one day before the Grand Convocation, examine returns of Subordinate Chapters and examine and report on the financial condition of the Grand Chapter."

M. E. Comp. J. W. Oslin (West Point), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Blackshear (Macon), Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Chicago, October 28th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Samuel W. Waddle, G. H. P.

This State is divided into nine Districts, each of which is placed in the charge of a Grand Officer. From the address of the Grand High Priest, we learn that

"The full Reports of the several Grand Officers in charge of the Districts, the aggregate number of official visitations, and the intimate knowledge gained of the condition and workings of the Chapters by them in consequence, abundantly attest the wisdom of the plan adopted by the Grand Chapter."

The Grand High Priest issued a Dispensation for one new Chapter, and refused a second application. He arrested the Charter of one Chapter, and recommends that two others be recalled.

On the condition of the Craft, he says:—

"The Reports of the several Grand Officers, of the condition of Capitular Masonry in their respective Districts, show a gratifying condition of harmony throughout our entire Grand Jurisdiction, and like my immediate predecessor, I am happy in being able to report that no cause of grievance of a sufficiently serious character to require the attention of the Grand Chapter or of the Grand High Priest has occurred during the year. This speaks well for the great 'strength and support' of our Institution in this jurisdiction, and is, I trust, evidence of the willingness of our Companions to be governed by the sublime precepts which underlie the noble structure of Freemasonry. But while we indulge in congratulations on the prevailing peace and tranquility in our midst, our pleasure is marred by the thought that far too many of our Chapters are quiet and still because they have reached that comatose condition which precedes dissolution, and are even so far gone as to be unable to give any evidence of life."

His decisions were as follows:—

"1st. A Chapter can only legally meet in the town or municipal corporation named in its charter or warrant.

"2nd. Signing the By-laws is not an essential pre-requisite to full membership in the Chapter.

"3rd. A Chapter cannot receive the petition of a Brother who has been elected to receive the degrees in another Chapter, (but who has failed to apply for them) without the consent of that Chapter.

"4th. In the absence of a High Priest who has been elected as his own successor, it is the duty of the King to proceed, at the time fixed by the By-laws, with the installation of the remaining officers, provided there is a Past High Priest present to conduct the ceremonies."

He mentions the death of Comp. Orlin H. Miner, Grand Treasurer, and Past Grand High Priest, who was "a man universally respected, a Mason universally loved."

A gratifying evidence of the harmony prevailing among the Companions of this large jurisdiction is found in the fact

that no case of grievance came before the Grand Chapter for consideration. The membership is about 10,000, and those in charge of the Chapter deserve great credit for their good management.

The following Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence was adopted :—

“Your Committee, to whom was referred the recommendation of the M. E. Grand High Priest, regarding the Council Degrees, would report that in view of the importance of the question involved, they are unwilling to report in favor of making the Council Degrees a necessary pre-requisite to full membership in the Chapter, but would ask that the Committee on Jurisprudence be allowed until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter to mature and report a complete plan for the adoption of the Council Degrees by this Grand Chapter.”

A resolution was proposed and rejected, that no more of the funds of the Grand Chapter shall be appropriated for the purchase of jewels for Past Grand High Priests. We suppose that jewels were getting too common, and that the intention was that the presentations in future should take some other shape. A Companion who has served the Craft so long and so faithfully as to attain the highest position in the Grand Chapter, is deserving of some more tangible recognition of his services.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Robert L. McKinlay. It is his first effort in this direction, and the result is very creditable to the author. The extracts are, in general, made with good judgment, and the comments, although few in number, are sound in the main. He reviews the proceedings of Canada for 1880, and gives two extracts from the Address of Comp. Spry.

He thinks that there are too many on our rolls who believe in “free” Masonry, and the sooner they are off the better for the Fraternity.

Also, that a Lodge of M. E. M. can be opened without the

Chapter being first opened. Also, that visitors should not be allowed to vote.

Under "Maryland" he says.—

"We do not concur in the opinion of Comp. Schultz. We understand that when a Charter is arrested, it affects the entire Chapter, and when the Charter is restored it restores the entire membership that were in good standing at the time 'it went to sleep.' We do not understand that when a Charter is restored the G. H. P. has the power to say who shall be members of the Chapter on its revival. The act of restoration is an entirety, and cannot be given in broken doses."

In his review of Michigan we notice two paragraphs of our own, which he erroneously supposes were written by Comp. Innes. The extract reads rather curiously, as our remarks are in disapproval of the action of Michigan as to expulsion for non-payment of dues, but if Comp. Innes is satisfied, we can have no objection.

M. E. Comp. Silas O. Vaughan (De Kalb), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. G. W. Barnard (Chicago), Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The thirty fifth Annual Convocation was held at Indianapolis, October 20th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Thomas B. Long, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able and interesting address. In his opening, he says:—

"It is a well-grounded conclusion that the strength and stability of Masonry do not consist so much in the number of its membership as in the true interest its members take in the grand principles that underlie and support it. It is, indeed, a temple founded upon the moral and social virtues. As long as a fair number of brothers meet to carry out the noble teachings of brotherly love, relief and truth, there will exist those grand principles of charity and moral elevation that have so long gained for our Order the love and admiration of the world. So long as our weary sojourners come, though it may only be by two or three at a time, from subjection, darkness and bondage, without the hope of fee or reward, to help rebuild for themselves and others the moral temple of this life, and erect for us a building not

made with hands, a house eternal in the heavens, so long shall the world be infinitely better than it would be without their earnest aid and assistance."

We quote one of his decisions:—

"The following rather novel case, so far as the conduct of the accused is concerned, has been presented in this question: 'What should be done with a member who has a diploma under the seal of the Grand Chapter, and now refuses to pay his dues, claiming that it makes no difference with him if the Chapter does suspend him, as he has the diploma, and that this or any other Chapter will and must recognize and admit him even if he is suspended or expelled?'

Answer.—You may proceed against him as you would against any other member refusing to pay his dues. (Rules 161, 163, 169, 170.) The penalty may be suspension or expulsion, as indicated by Rules 204 (amended in 1867) and 205, *et seq.*

The opinion of the Companion that 'it don't make any difference with him if the Chapter does suspend him, as he has the diploma, and that this or any other Chapter must recognize and admit him, even if he is suspended or expelled,' will be found by him to be quite erroneous, should either of these penalties be pronounced against him."

He allowed the use of two substitutes, and he thus explains their position on the effect of Lodge suspension on Chapter membership:—

"There have been in the various Grand Chapters questions as to what ought to be the Capitular standing of a Companion who has been suspended or expelled for the non-payment of dues to his Lodge. In some jurisdictions it has been held that such suspension or expulsion cannot affect the Companion's standing in his Chapter; whilst other jurisdictions have taken such strong grounds against this position as to require from visitors to their subordinates, before they can be admitted, a declaration that they do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, and that their names have not been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in their Lodges of Master Masons, or their Chapters of Royal Arch Masons.

"Now, since no one can apply for the Capitular Degrees in this jurisdiction unless he be a Master Mason, and a member in good standing of a Lodge of Master Masons, nor receive the Chapter Degrees except with these surroundings, and as this is the very foundation upon which his capitular edifice is builded, it would surely seem that when he is expelled or suspended by his Lodge his standing is lost to him in his Chapter. If he is not a member in good standing there, as we understand the term in this jurisdiction, then he should not be allowed to visit any of our Subordinate Chapters. We not only owe it to ourselves to provide against such visitations, as making one of the requisite qualifications of the degrees here of no force, and requiring from petitioners what we waive as to non-residents, but we owe it to Craft Masonry throughout the world. It will

not be out of place, I think, for this Grand Chapter to give this subject careful consideration, and take such action upon it as may seem proper.

"The additional discussion that is prevailing in other Grand Jurisdictions, as to whether a non-affiliate Master Mason is eligible to the Chapter Degrees, can have no bearing upon affairs in ours, since it is very properly provided in our rules for the government of Subordinate Chapters that—'No petition for degrees in the Chapter can be received from one who is not at the time a Master Mason, and regularly affiliated as a member in full standing in a Lodge of Master Masons.'"

Comp. Elisha L. McLallen was received and welcomed as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported in favor of the use of two substitutes in extreme cases of emergency, and on Lodge suspension as follows:—

"That our laws on that subject are very definite, and clearly set forth that 'the suspension or expulsion of a Companion for any cause whatever effectually precludes, for the time being, all Masonic intercourse with him while under such disability.'

"Under this rule, your Committee believe that an expulsion, suspension, or 'dropped,' as it is called in some jurisdictions, for non-payment of dues or for any other cause, so far impeaches the good standing of the Companion that he cannot affiliate with, or even be permitted to visit, a Chapter in this jurisdiction.

"We cannot see how any other rule could prevail and preserve harmony and good understanding among the different Grand Jurisdictions of the world. The law imposing any disability upon a Companion must follow him, wherever he may go, until restored or relieved from such disability by proper authority."

An amendment to the Constitution, that the funds should not be loaned to individuals, was laid over till next year.

In accordance with a provision in their Constitution, the report on correspondence is by the Grand High Priest. It is a well-written and extensive review of 37 Grand Chapters, covering 159 pages. Canada for 1880 receives a good notice, and the address of Comp. Spry, is characterized as excellent and sensible. We may inform Comp. Long, that our expression, "on the throne," refers only to the Grand Council, (the three Principals,) who are thus seated, and not to the 17 inferior officers. We could not undertake to pro-

vide thrones for all our officers. They are all, no doubt, worthy of the honor, but we fear our treasury would be bankrupt, unless we could import some of the effete monarchies of the old world, and "drop" the occupants,

We make the following extracts, with full approval:—

"Now the writer emphatically expresses the opinion that a *bona fide* removal from, and out of, the jurisdiction does vacate the office. This is the rule of civil law in every country on earth, and certainly ought to be the law of Masonry, for this has its jurisdictions as independent and distinct as are those of separate states and governments."

"They have possibly found one of the causes of the decrease in membership, but there are doubtless others of greater moment. The plan proposed of incorporating *into* Masonry the system of life insurance, however, is subversive of the traditions, landmarks, and general principles of Masonry, and should not be considered for a moment. That of reducing fees at least fifty per cent. is but little less dangerous, because that would not strengthen the financial condition of Chapters, unless largely more than double the ordinary number of petitions were received, whilst a union of the two plans is doubly objectionable for both the reasons given. These new secret life insurance societies cannot, in the nature of things, last very long. They are the outgrowth of hard times, and the result of a latent fear by heads of families that, in case of death, those dependant on them would be left wholly unprovided for. Let business revive—and it is doing so—and hope and confidence be restored, and wages be increased,—and all these things will come—and it will soon be seen that these new ties, not to any great extent founded upon universal brotherhood, nor upon sound principles, but greatly upon self-interest, will be broken or dissolved, and Masonry, that is universal and eternal, will revive where it may now be languishing, and flourish again with more than its former vigor."

M. E. Comp. Edward Walker (De'phi), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John M. Bramwell (Indianapolis), Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held at Des Moines, Oct. 5th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Almon R. Dewey, G. H. P.

The Grand Chapter was honored by a visit from the General Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Robert F. Bower, who received a hearty welcome, and made an appropriate response.

The Grand High Priest reports one new Chapter. He was pleased to notice, in his visits to the Chapters, a disposition among the members to make their meetings partake of a sociable character equal with labor.

On special dispensations he says:—

“I have had several applications for special dispensations to ballot out of time, the most of which I have granted, but some, however, with much reluctance. I can scarcely approve the great desire some have that when about to ‘travel in some foreign country’ or take part in some great display, they will suddenly conclude ‘what a nice thing it would be to be a Mason,’ manifesting thereby a greater desire for personal pleasure or self-promotion than the higher motives which prompt all good Masons who offer to ‘add another stone to the temple.’”

We also copy some of his decisions:—

Second Query.—A Companion having been charged, tried, and reprimanded in the Blue Lodge, can he be held to answer the same charges made in the Chapter?

Answer.—Yes.

Third Query.—A Companion being dissatisfied with some Chapter procedure, demanded a dimit, which was granted, on condition that his dues be paid. The next Chapter meeting he returned, claimed his rights as a member, would not accept a dimit, and gave as reason therefor that the Chapter had no right to grant him a dimit until his fees were paid. The Chapter asked for instructions.

Answer.—There is no such thing as a conditional dimit. The Companion is entitled to full membership in your Chapter. Your Chapter should be reproved for its course, and the Companion censured for repudiating his own act.

Fourth Query.—Some six months ago a member who had removed from the immediate jurisdiction of a Chapter, sent by mail the amount of dues and a written request for a dimit. A Companion objected, and asked that his objection be made of record, which was done. Since that time, although frequently importuned to do so, he has neglected to prefer charges. The High Priest applied to me to know what course to pursue.

Answer.—If the applicant has paid his dues to date of application and makes a written request for a dimit, he is entitled to it, if a vote of a majority of the members concur. I know of no rule that authorizes an objection to be entered on application for dimit; but, however, such a course would be commendable until the objector could have time to present his objections in the form of charges. I recommend, therefore, that the High Priest advise the objector of this communication, and that if he failed to present charges at the next regular meeting, to order the ballot spread on the application, and if a majority of the Companions present vote affirmatively, that the dimit be issued.

Fifth Query.—Is a member in good standing, clear of the books, and

with no charges preferred, entitled to a dimit as a matter of right, or is he bound to give his reasons therefor?

Answer.—The Companion is entitled to his dimit as a matter of right.

From the report of the Grand Secretary, we learn that their financial condition is improving. We notice the following by-laws of one of the Chapters on life membership:—

“SEC. 9. Any member of this Chapter not indebted for dues or otherwise, may, upon application at any stated Convocation, by a vote of the members present, become a life member by paying into the treasury the sum of \$40, thereby retaining all the rights and privileges of active membership; such life membership, and the sum paid therefor, to be in lieu of and exempt the member paying therefor from payment of current dues. He shall remain subject to all the rules, laws, and regulations of the Order, and, in case of suspension or expulsion, shall forfeit the sum so paid, and all the privileges of life membership, until regularly reinstated.

“SEC. 10. Any member who has regularly and continuously paid all dues and assessments against him for twenty years, may, in consideration of long and faithful service, upon vote of the Chapter, be placed on the life membership list and exempted from payment of current dues, subject to the same provisions as in section 9 of this article.

“SEC. 11. Any member who has regularly and continuously paid all dues and assessments against him for five years or more, may, upon vote of the Chapter, be placed upon the life membership list by paying the sum of \$40, less the amount of \$2 for each year that he has paid annual dues.”

This plan has been tried in other places, but we are not sure of its success. We would like to know how it has worked, as we think that some plan of this kind might be introduced with advantage.

The committee on the address, in their report, say:—

“*Seventh.* We heartily concur in the course adopted by the Grand High Priest in visiting Chapters and conferring degrees. Your committee believe that visitations by Grand Officers reinvigorate and strengthen the subordinates, and that the course pursued is worthy of commendation.

“*Eighth.* Your committee do not believe in electing a candidate out of time in order to enable the newly-made companion to “travel,” “visit foreign countries,” or march in a procession; and therefore approve of the course of the Grand High Priest in discouraging special dispensations.”

The following report on life membership was adopted:—

"Your special Committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Secretary's report relating to the 'exemption from dues, etc,' would respectfully submit the following report:

"While we heartily concur with the Grand Secretary in recommending charity to those members of subordinate Chapters who are unable to pay dues, we are not in favor of allowing subordinate Chapters the right of creating honorary members for a consideration, and excusing the same from paying dues to the Grand Chapter, believing such action would be detrimental to the Royal Craft. We find nothing in the constitution or general regulations of this Grand Body forbidding subordinate Chapters from creating honorary or life members of the same, but we hold that such Chapters should be, for the good of the Craft, held for Grand Chapter dues for all such members, and therefore see no reason for any change in the rule existing heretofore."

We fully agree with the committee that the Chapter must pay Grand Chapter dues for life members, and we think that Chapters should so invest their life membership fees that the interest would meet this demand, and also pay a certain proportion of the running expenses of the Chapter, and the life fees should be fixed at such an amount as would be fair to the other members of the Chapter.

The Grand Chapter has about \$6,000 on hand over expenses, and a motion was made to reduce the *per capita* tax from fifty cents to twenty-five cents, but the motion was lost.

Comp. T. R. Ercanbrack reports on correspondence, and notices our proceedings for 1879 and 1880. He thus apologizes for his brevity, and for such a premeditated offence against the laws and regulations of the Mutual Admiration Society he is surely liable to discipline:—

"Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the current year have complied with the views of the Grand Chapter as we understood them. Economy of expenditure seemed to be the *desideratum*; hence our report is brief. We have dispensed with quotations almost altogether, and have not sought to tax the treasury with a display of our own spleen or facetiousness.

"The reports submitted to us have contained little else than an account of business strictly routine and local in character.

"The matter of Capitular and Cryptic consolidation has given rise to very little discussion. A few have spoken of the matter derisively, but some men will derive pleasure from all sources. The 'Iowa idea' of reports by Grand Representatives did not meet with favor. It was condemned or derided on all sides.

"If this report shall be found lacking in matters of weight and importance, it is mainly owing to the fact that the minds of those who compose the Grand Chapters are not now filled with weighty and important subjects."

M. E. Comp. Almon R. Dewey (Washington), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. B. Langridge (Muscatine), Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

The thirty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at New Orleans, February 15th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Edwin H. Fay, G. H. P.

In the annual address, the Grand High Priest takes rather a gloomy view of his surroundings.

"While I welcome you here, to-day, to this our thirty-fourth annual Grand Convocation, and rejoice to behold such a number assembled, still I would be recreant to the high trust your partiality has imposed upon me, did I not inform you, that although peace abounds within our walls, and harmony in our temples, yet it is the peace of inaction, and the harmony of inanition. Yes! Companions, disguise it as we may, Capitular Masonry, unless something is done to arrest it, and that something speedily, is going into a lethargic decline, if not into actual disease. The fact stares us in the face, and if we are wise, we will look carefully for the causes, to see if they can be remedied, and the result be prevented.

"There are, in my opinion, several reasons for this state of affairs, and the first, if not most potent of all, is want of discipline in our subordinate Chapters, as well as in the Grand Chapter itself. In the subordinate Chapters, Companions are frequently guilty of conduct grossly unmasonic, and go on for years, not called to an account for the same, because, like the accusers of the sinning woman of Scripture, none can cast the first stone.

"By this laxity, Masonry is brought into disrepute, and reflecting, sensible men raise the question, whether they desire the intimate, social relationship with others who are so unmindful of their Masonic obligations. Our own dearly cherished sanctuaries have not escaped the demoralizing effects of fratricidal war. Our obligations to Deity, and to our fellow-man are too frequently ignored, and I blush to assert that one of the most profane men I ever knew was a R. A. Mason in good standing. This must all be changed, and we must return to first principles, and the instructive moral teachings of our order, before we can hope to see our Chapters flourish. Discipline, too, must be exercised by the Grand Chapter, and from those Chapters who habitually neglect to make their returns and pay their dues, kindly, but inexorably, should their charters be taken away. The first step

towards the death of a Chapter, is a failure to meet regularly, which, sooner or later, induces that carelessness and neglect which should cause a prompt arrest of their charter.

"Another source of the loss of interest in Capitular Masonry is the well-intentioned but eminently destructive establishment of life membership. Suppose that for ten years to come there should be as small an increase in the membership of subordinate Chapters as there has been for the last few years, whence would come the revenues for our already heavily debt-burthened Grand Chapter? And, I respectfully recommend that at this session some action be taken in regard to this matter, either revoking altogether this privilege, or greatly prolonging the time which life membership may become attainable, which would only, however, be a postponing the evil day. Some five years since, one Chapter boldly took the ground that it would not entertain any application for life membership."

* * * * *

"Cheap Masonry, too, I think, has exerted a baleful influence on the Institution within our border. We are apt to esteem lightly that which costs us little, and by being advanced too rapidly, we often lose that true appreciation of the beauties and harmonies of our Masonic edifice, and the valuable truths and instructions inculcated therein. 'Tis like attempting to visit a gallery of paintings, adorned by the grand productions of the "old masters," and learn all their excellencies in a single day."

He appointed R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, as their representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada, and received R. E. Comp. Andrew Hero, Jr., as our representative.

Six charters were declared forfeited, and an assessment of one dollar per member was ordered to provide funds to pay the indebtedness.

They still, however, rather inconsistently, pay mileage and per diem.

M. E. Comp. Andrew Hero, Jr. (New Orleans), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James C. Batchelor (New Orleans), Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The fifty-fifth Annual Convocation was held at Portland, May 4th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Joseph M. Hayes, G. H. P.

From the address we learn that the officers whose duty it

is to visit the several Chapters in the State once, at least, in every year, for the purpose of consulting together and securing among themselves perfect uniformity in the work and lectures, met, and upon a comparison of the work, were satisfied that the entire jurisdiction was receiving from the visiting officers correct and complete instructions.

His decisions were as follows.

"1. The relations of a Companion in a Chapter are not affected by his having been suspended from membership in a Lodge for non-payment of dues.

"2. An objection made to a High Priest to the acceptance of a candidate is to be treated as a rejection by ballot, and holds good for the same length of time, viz: six months.

"The publication of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, the Digest of Decisions and the Standing Regulations and the increasing desire on the part of the officers of various Chapters to thoroughly understand them, have lessened the duties of this office very materially."

He appointed R. E. Comp. Rev. St. George Caulfeild, as their representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

M. E. Comp. Andrew J. Fuller presented his commission as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and was received and welcomed as such.

A petition for a new Chapter was refused, as the recommendation of the nearest Chapter had not been obtained.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

"*Resolved*,—That no proposed new codes of By-laws, or amendments to old ones, shall be adopted by any Chapter until they shall have been submitted to the Grand High Priest, and by him approved as not inconsistent with the Constitution and other Masonic laws for the government of Chapters."

"*Resolved*,—That an assessment of fifteen cents per member be made upon the Subordinate Chapters annually, until otherwise ordered, for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses of the Grand Chapter, and that the same be paid with the other yearly dues."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comps. Drummond and Derby, and notices Canada for 1879.

We have marked so many passages to copy from this very interesting and valuable report, that a second revision is absolutely necessary, and for the same reason, we must refrain from comment.

In the notice of Alabama,

"He holds, and offered resolutions which the Grand Chapter adopted, that the Charter must be present or the Chapter cannot be opened.

"We have, heretofore, expressed opposite views, looking from a *legal* standpoint. There is no doubt that the *vote* of the Grand Chapter is the *authority* and the *charter* is only the *evidence* of the authority, when we consider it as a strictly *legal* question. The *absence* of the charter, therefore, would not invalidate the proceedings. But the law may require a Body to have the legal evidence of its authority present as a condition precedent to its action, and upon further consideration we have come to the conclusion that the Masonic law, founded upon long usage, does require the presence of the charter. The definition of a Lodge contemplates the actual presence of the charter as much as it does that of the "three great lights." Such was the ancient idea of a charter, and where the Chapter degrees were conferred in a Chapter appurtenant to a Lodge, the presence of the Lodge charter was deemed indispensable; and instances are on record in which a *charter was borrowed*, in order to have one present. So, Comp. Pillans, we *do* modify our views, as you thought we might."

Under "District of Columbia,"

"We have always been of the opinion that when a man becomes a Mason and learns that there are other degrees, if he has not interest enough to inquire about them he has not interest enough to make it desirable to have him receive them, and, therefore, that it is not wise to invite him to receive them.

"The Report on Correspondence (89 pp.) was again presented by Comp. Noble D. Larner.

"He seems not to be familiar with the difference between suspension from, or deprivation of, membership, and suspension from the rights of Masonry. There is the same difference as between the whole and a part. There is a difference between an unaffiliated and an affiliated Mason: the latter has certain Lodge rights which the former has not: for non-payment of dues, we in Maine merely take away the rights which an affiliated Mason has over an unaffiliated Mason. We do not punish him for non-payment of dues further than to take away from him his membership in the lodge and leave him an unaffiliated mason in good standing."

"We agree with Canada, as Canada does not hold or decide that a Lodge of M. M. M. can be opened 'without the R. A. Masons being notified that such a Lodge is to be held.' This clause is an inference of Comp. L.'s. But is not every R. A. Mason a M. M. Mason? If every M. M. Mason is notified, is not every R. A. Mason notified? The

degrees are not worked in the body of a Chapter, but in Lodges appurtenant to a Chapter. Comp L. gives a copy of a charter granted in 1814: in that the members are authorized to confer the degree of R. A. Mason, 'and also to hold Lodges of Most Excellent and Mark Master Masons:' not to confer these degrees 'in the body of a Chapter,' but to hold Lodges. All the charters we have ever noticed are of the same purport."

Under "Maryland,"

"Comp. Schultz thinks that the actual presence of the charter is indispensable to the opening of a Chapter. It is our opinion that the great weight of authority is with him here, although we are unable to fathom the reason of this regulation. Prior to the memorable re-union of Lodges upon St. John's Day, 1717, no written charters were in vogue. The resolution of that assembly states that 'the privilege of assembling as masons, which had been hitherto unlimited, should be vested in certain Lodges;' that every Lodge should be authorized by warrant from the Grand Master, 'and that without such warrant no Lodge should be hereafter deemed regular or constitutional.' This resolution simply provided that a written evidence of their regularity was necessary for Lodges, but no reasonable construction could require its actual presence in the place of assembly. However, jurists have seen fit to so legislate and determine. Several Grand Lodges have constitutional provisions to that effect. The Grand Master of Mississippi, in 1855, said the weight of authority was in favor of the rule; Mackey and Chase regard it as established law. But, while we recognize this as the law, we can see no more reason for it than that a corporation, chartered by the State, should be compelled to have at its meetings an attested copy of the Act under which it organized."

Under "Nebraska,"

"We have already in this report answered his question; but, as our practice in this section is so generally misunderstood, we will repeat. With us a Mason may be unaffiliated and be in good standing. Depriving a member of membership makes him an unaffiliated mason, except that he cannot join another Lodge until he pays his dues in his old one. For more than a hundred years it has been the theory that an unaffiliated Mason is still a Mason; that Lodge dues and Lodge membership are reciprocal and equivalent: if, therefore, a man wishes for the benefits of Lodge membership, he must pay the corresponding dues; if he does not wish for the benefits he need not pay the dues: it was a good deal like a subscription to a newspaper: a man could pay up and stop when he pleased; if he did not pay, the publisher could drop his name from the list at pleasure. Our law expressly provides that the penalty for non-payment of dues shall be only suspension from, or deprivation of, Lodge membership; it adds a fourth punishment, if it can be called punishment, to the three named by Comp. Warren. The logic of the matter is, that the *status* of an unaffiliated Mason is that of a Mason expelled or suspended from all Masonic rights, or members deprived of membership merely are neither expelled nor suspended from all Masonic rights. One writer says, 'suspension is suspension;' this may be true, but there is a large difference between suspension by the neck and suspension by the

waist. It may be that under our laws non-payment of dues is not a Masonic offence; still, as it involves a loss of rights by a judgment of a Lodge, it comes pretty near being an offence. The main trouble with Comp. Warren and others is, that they insist that every Chapter shall impose the same penalty that their Chapter imposes, while we claim that we may impose a lighter one if we choose. Suppose our Grand Chapter should decree that the only penalty for non-payment of dues shall be a reprimand—who can gainsay it? Suppose it should prescribe a milder punishment than the one now provided by our law, by enacting that the only penalty for non-payment of dues should be only suspension from the right to hold office and vote for officers of Chapter, until the dues are paid—who could gainsay that? The fact is, that it seems to us absurd, that when a Mason has a hundred Masonic rights he may not be suspended from any one, five, ten, or fifty of them, as a punishment, without being suspended from all of them. Comp. Warren practically says:—‘No, you must suspend him from all or none.’ It seems to us—nay, it is absurd, to say that a Grand Lodge cannot provide that a Mason may be suspended, for bad conduct, from appearing in a public procession of his Lodge, without suspending him from any other right.”

Under “Ohio,”

“We dissent from the spirit of these last remarks. We do not believe that the chief duty of a Mason is the payment of dues. The fundamental principle of Masonry, in this respect, is that each Mason is to be sole judge of what he can or cannot do in the way of contributing from his means for the benefit of the Institution or the relief of his Brethren. The obligatory payment of money implies a corresponding right to the benefits from it; but there was no such idea in Ancient Craft Masonry; each brother in distress was morally entitled to such relief as his brethren were, in their judgment, able to afford him, and they were morally bound to give accordingly; each brother, also, who was willing to pay for Lodge privileges in addition, could do so; and the only distinction, between affiliated and unaffiliated Masons, was that the former had the rights and privilege growing out of a Lodge organization which the latter had not

“The mutual rights and obligations of individual Masons were in no manner affected by non-affiliation; and while the obligations we assume remain as they have been and are, we do not believe they *can* be; we do not believe that any *law* can release us from the binding force of those obligations.

“The practical tendency of Comp. Underwood's views is to degrade Masonry to a system of obligatory dues and corresponding benefits due *as a right*. When it comes to that, we shall wish to found a new Institution upon the basis of Ancient Masonry.

“For these reasons we believe that our Maine system of deprivation of membership for non-payment of dues, and the according to unaffiliated Masons of their rights as individual Masons, with no claim to the rights growing out of the Lodge organization, to be in accordance with the fundamental principles of Masonry, our obligations, and, withal, sound policy.”

Under “Pennsylvania,”

“But the subject of most interest is his discussion of the action of

the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in regard to the *status* of Masons from other jurisdictions.

“That action was as follows:—

“‘WHEREAS, Several of the Grand Chapters of the United States have declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues, is not suspended in his Chapter, but continues a member in good standing of the same, with all the rights and privileges, and

“‘WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter desires emphatically to declare the foregoing to be a violation of Masonic law and usage, and gives countenance to suspended Masons;

“‘Therefore be it

“‘Resolved, That the Chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the M. E. Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, be directed to require of all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.’

“We wrote something warmly about this last year, and Comp. Meyer says:—

“‘Comp. Drummond makes some strange statements, and writes in very strong language, ‘gross blunder, and state, unwittingly, what is not true,’ are words we have seldom met with in Grand Chapter reports, or in any Masonic proceedings, and are unwarranted, and we think were written rather hastily, without due reflection. We still hold that any decision which says that a Royal Arch Mason who does not pay his dues to his Lodge is in good standing in his Chapter, is a violation of Masonic law and usage.’

* * * * *

“‘Comp. Drummond is right, the resolution does involve a principle of the gravest importance, but as to its being a ‘dangerous attack upon the rights of other Grand Bodies,’ he is altogether wrong. It is no dangerous attack; it is merely carrying out the law of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania within the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Under that law we judge the status of all Royal Arch Masons within our jurisdiction. While they are here they are subject to our laws, the same as we would be while within the jurisdiction of Maine.’

“Referring to the last clause first, we concede the right of Pennsylvania to hold Masons while in her jurisdiction subject to her laws; but what we deny is, her right to say that a Mason made unaffiliated by the laws of Maine was thereby either expelled or suspended from his Masonic rights. In other words, the *status* which any proceedings under the laws of Maine give him in Maine is his *status* everywhere, so far as those proceedings are concerned. The dangerous attack upon the rights of other Grand Chapters is the giving of the action of such Grand Chapters a different effect from what they themselves give it.

“Now, as to the first paragraph quoted: We supposed, when we wrote our report of last year, that Comp. M. had made the blunder of confounding suspension from membership with suspension from all Masonic rights. If he understood the distinction made in Maine,

New Hampshire, Massachusetts and other jurisdictions, between the two, we marvel much that he should write as he did. The first clause of the preamble is not true, and we could account for his writing it only by supposing he had made a 'gross blunder.' However, we withdraw all our statements about how it happened, and give our attention to what is written.

"But before we do so, we wish to notice one error which we made last year. We challenged him 'to find an instance that there was such a thing as compulsory dues prior to the anti-Masonic storm.' He says one Pennsylvania Lodge made dues compulsory in 1787, and shows that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as early as 1801, recognized expulsion for non-payment of dues, and that other Grand Lodges from 1804 to 1820 did the same thing. We were led into the error by the opposite practice and law in England before the independence of our Grand Lodges: that of Massachusetts from 1733, that of New Hampshire from 1756, and that of Maine from 1769. The position taken last year was not at all necessary for our argument, as the usage of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts for more than one hundred years was all that was necessary for our purpose.

"To return: the statement of the first clause in the preamble is not true. No Grand Chapter in the United States has declared that a Companion suspended by his Lodge of Master Masons for non-payment of dues is not suspended in his Chapter, &c., on the contrary, they have invariably declared that a Companion suspended for any cause by his Lodge is suspended in his Chapter, giving to the suspension by the Lodge the same effect that the laws of the Grand Lodge give it.

"Grand Chapters have decided that inasmuch as suspension from membership for any cause by a Lodge, under the laws of the Grand Lodge, leave him an unaffiliated Mason in good standing, his standing in the Chapter is not affected thereby. The Chapter never questions the act of the Lodge, but gives effect to the Lodge law as expounded by the Lodge. But Pennsylvania is not willing for us to do so: she wishes us to question such act of the Lodge, and give it a different effect from that which the Lodge gives.

"Now, we submit that if the Chapter may vary the effect of the action of the Lodge one way, it may the other, and, on the same principle, may declare expulsion or suspension from Masonic rights to be merely unaffiliation. If we undertake to vary the effect of the action of the Lodge in any way from that which the law of the Lodge gives, it is a dangerous attack upon the rights of the Lodge.

"Comp. Meyer further says:

" 'Pennsylvania Royal Arch Masonry, in its government, is somewhat after the English style, and a Royal Arch Mason suspended from his Lodge for any cause whatsoever is, *ipso facto*, suspended from his membership in the Chapter, and the Chapter cannot question for one moment the action of the Lodge. Still further: should he resign, dimitt or withdraw from the Lodge, and remain unaffiliated for a period of six months, he at once ceases to be a member of his Chapter.'

"But in most other jurisdictions, such law does not prevail in relation to unaffiliated Masons: will Pennsylvania follow the logic of her recent action, and declare that Companions from Maine, who have

been unaffiliated for six months in their Lodge, are also unaffiliated in their Chapter, because such is the law in Pennsylvania.

"He says the non-payment of dues is a Masonic offence; well, suppose it is: does he deny the right of any Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter to prescribe any other penalty for it than suspension or expulsion? And if one does, can he say that in doing so, such Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter is guilty 'of a violation of Masonic law, and gives countenance to suspended Masons.'

"He says further :

"It is no punishment in Maine to suspend a Mason from membership in his Lodge; it merely unaffiliates him. If we understand the Maine law, the suspended for non-payment of dues Mason can visit any Lodge (except the one in which he was suspended), if the Lodge chooses to admit him; he may apply for assistance, and, if the Lodge chooses, they can assist him; he may be buried with Masonic honors if the Lodge so wishes. The same privileges has the Mason in good standing in his Lodge, who pays his honest debts to the Lodge, and assists in its support.

"Such is not the law in Pennsylvania, and we venture to say, in a large majority of Grand Lodges in this country. With us suspension has no qualification. It means all that the word implies. It suspends him from all his functions, Masonically, in the Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, and in the Ancient Accepted Rite, in which latter Body they have adopted what we have always had in our Chapters, the doctrine of compulsory membership.'

"The first sentence is much like saying, 'it does not punish a man any to hang him by the neck; it only stops his breath.' In Maine, affiliated Masons have by right the privileges of visitation, burial joining in public processions, holding Masonic office, the charity of the Lodge, and many others; the unaffiliated has none of these by right, but only by favor, and many he cannot have at all; the difference between the rights of an affiliated Mason and those of an un-affiliated one are very material. The exception is, the parenthesis in the above extract should be omitted; the Lodge which deprived him of membership may allow him to visit if it chooses.

"The last paragraph is no more true in Pennsylvania than in Maine; the difference, however, is that in the former the only suspension recognized is suspension by the neck, while in the latter other modes are recognized.

"Our Companion further says:

"Royal Arch Masonry is grounded upon the Blue Lodge. It receives its initiates from that source, and depends upon it for support, as far as regards its initiates, and cannot question any of its acts or go behind the records.'

"This is the Maine doctrine, but not that of Pennsylvania, except possibly, so far as Pennsylvania Lodges are concerned. A Lodge in Maine, in accordance with a law of its Grand Lodge, declares that the penalty for non-payment of dues shall be deprivation of membership in the Lodge, leaving the delinquent in possession of all his other Masonic rights; the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania does question this act and goes behind the records, and declares that the Lodge has been guilty of a violation of Masonic law, and that the member thus dealt

with has been suspended from all his Masonic rights, and that the Lodge, in admitting him, is giving countenance to suspended Masons.

"We can put the whole question in a nutshell, and we fraternally ask Comp. Meyer to answer the following questions:

"Suppose the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania should enact (as the Grand Lodge of Maine has done) that the only penalty for non-payment of dues should be deprivation of membership, and that any one thus deprived of membership might be received as a visitor in all Lodges; would the Grand Chapter obey this edict, or would it declare that the Grand Lodge had violated 'Masonic law and usage and was giving countenance to suspended Masons?' Has the Grand Chapter of Maine the right to declare that the action of the Grand Lodge is un-Masonic?

"He says further:

"We have extended this review further than we intended, in justice to ourselves, and, in conclusion, would say, that we have not yet heard of any Grand Chapter which considers itself grossly insulted by our preamble and resolutions of February last, unless Comp. Drummond is the Grand Chapter of Maine, for we find nothing in the official Proceedings on the subject. In our opinion, the subject is argued by him more in the manner of special pleading, and has neither the fact nor the general, universal Masonic law on his side.'

"In another place, as has been seen, he takes exception to our language. We reckon that if a Grand Chapter should solemnly resolve that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania had been guilty of a violation of Masonic law and usage, and been giving countenance to suspended Masons, our good Companion would see it in a different light; if the declaration of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania is not an insult to several of the New England Grand Chapters, we confess we are unable to define 'insult.' Of course, the Grand Chapter of Maine has taken no action in the matter, and it cannot until a case arises under the resolutions we have copied.

"He says further:

"An assessment of fifteen cents per member was laid upon each Chapter. In case the Chapters should not pay, what will be the punishment?"

"We might revoke their charter, or suspend their charter, or suspend the right of the representatives of the Chapter to vote in the Grand Chapter, until the dues are paid. If we should take the latter course, we presume the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania would formally resolve that our Grand Chapter was giving countenance to suspended Masons and clandestine Chapters.

"If at any Annual Convocation the dues of a Chapter are not paid, the Grand Chapter would probably content itself with a publication of the fact, and if they should not be paid at the next Convocation, it would, unless some sufficient excuse was offered, suspend the right of representation in the Grand Chapter, and then if they were not paid, the charter would probably be revoked at the next Convocation. We find that the law of several Grand Chapters is, that the representatives of a Chapter are not entitled to seats in the Grand Chapter until the returns are made and dues paid; is this a suspension of the charter? We cannot find that it is so held anywhere.

"A Mason is suspended or expelled by his Lodge, but afterwards is restored to all his Masonic rights, except membership in his Lodge; what is his *status*?

"Other illustrations might be given, but we think we have given enough to show that this recent action of Pennsylvania, whether so intended or not, is for the purpose of forcing the Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of other States to adopt her law, rather than their own."

Under "Wisconsin,"

"He recommends that *Pinafore* should be adopted as a Masonic hymn, for its wondrous music and wondrous adaptation of the syllables to its notes. We rather like this, and will suggest to our 'Band' that they attune their varied instruments to its enlivening strains as they accompany the captive trio through the trials of Babylonian bondage. How it would have lightened the sorrows of the mourning children upon the banks of Chebar, and with what alacrity would those children have climbed for their rusty harps!

"The reviewer thinks Comp. Drummond the author of contradictory statements in relation to the standing in Chapters of unaffiliated Master Masons. But the 'contradiction' arises from a confusion of suspension from *membership*—or dropping from the roll—and suspension from Masonic rights.

"To our dissent from Comp. Cottrill's definition of 'free-born,' as meaning *free to control one's action*, and not born out of slavery, he asks us to look up Dr. Oliver, and then to tell him how it could have the meaning we attribute to it in English Masonry, 'in a country that never had a slave except in its dependencies and colonies, and as to which Lord Mansfield said, in substance, that the air there was too pure to tolerate its breathing by a slave.'"

"1. We have looked at the 'Dictionary of Symbolic Masonry,' edited by Dr. Oliver, and find under the word 'Free-born' the following definition:

"'No candidate can be admitted into Freemasonry * * * unless he be a *FREE man*, of mature age and strict morality.'

"If these words mean anything (though in the works of this fantastic writer words do not always have a meaning), they convey just the construction we claim and which Masonic jurists, with scarcely an exception, have maintained.

"Anderson's charges of 1723 contain the following:

"'The persons admitted members of a Lodge must be good and true men, *free-born* and of mature and discreet age.'

"And, as if to remove any possible doubt, continue:

"'No *BOND MAN*, no woman, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.'

"Mackey says:

"'The person who desires to be made a Mason must be * * * neither a *SLAVE* nor the son of a *bond woman*.'

"And that the Grand Lodge of England regarded it in a similar light is shown by the action taken by that Body a few years since, in

changing the word 'free-born' to 'free man' in the ritual, whereby, as Drummond (Text Book, 180) says, 'it has undertaken to change a landmark.'

"2. The dictum of Lord Mansfield was delivered in the case of Somerset, in 1772, in which he held that negro slavery, as known in the colonies, was not recognized in the British Isles.

"The idea was by no means original with Mansfield. Seventy years before, Chief Justice Holt had said, 'as soon as a negro comes to England he is free; one may be a villein in England but not a slave.' The system of villeinage or serfdom, which had been fastened upon England by her proud Norman conquerors, extended into the latter part of the sixteenth century, and was not, indeed, entirely eradicated until the 39 Geo. III., c. 56, when the colliers were released from what had formerly been for them a life-bondage.

"The villein was not the chattel that the negro slave was; he occupied the more elevated position of a fixture to real estate; if he left the manor of his lord the latter could retake him by a peculiar writ; he could acquire no property in his own right, either by purchase or descent, and the child followed the condition of his father—*free-born* only if the father was.

"The system, modified by time rather than by legislative enactment, existed at the date of the compilation of Anderson's Constitutions from the laws of the operative Lodges, which reached back to those ages when it existed in its vigor. The provision that the applicant must be free-born excluded the villeins and their children *born* in that *bondage*. Can there be a doubt about it? Upon the very day when Mansfield proclaimed the English air too pure for a *slave* to breathe, there were *villeins*—colliers and salters—delving in the sunless mines of the Isle, bound to perpetual bondage passing without grant to the purchaser of the estate, and whose children inherited the bonds of their father and became attached to the soil by the simple accident of their birth, hopeless fixtures to that soil, far down below the air 'too pure' for the colonial slave.

"In the light of facts, the dictum of Mansfield was but the meaningless boast of a man, who was a servile follower rather than a leader of public opinion, and who, in matters involving political issues, was as unreliable as a member of the electoral commission.

"So we do not concede to Comp. Cottrill that his construction is well founded in fact; but we think it well to soften the rigor of the old regulation—*landmark* if you will; for the laws of Masonry, under whatever name you class them, must be capable of modification or the Brotherhood cannot long endure. Whether we will or not, we *must* accompany the world in its solemn march. The wrecks of civilizations and of religions that strew the pathway of Time—like the fossil in its rocky matrix—teach that social as well as physical organism *must* adapt themselves to the ever-varying media through which they pass."

M. E. Comp. Joseph M. Hayes (Bath,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ira Berry (Portland,) Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The eighty-third Annual Convocation was held at Baltimore, November 9th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Edmund J. Oppelt, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest visited all the Chapters during the year, and held an exemplification of the work. On their condition, he says:—

“Our membership has not increased materially during the year, but as quality is at all times preferable to quantity this is not to be deplored, and it may temper our regret to feel that the fewer the applicants the closer the scrutiny.

“The attendance at the Convocations is not as good as it should be. An unaccountable apathy seems to exist among the membership, for which there appears to be no cure. I am very sure it is not traceable to any lack of zeal or energy on the part of presiding officers of the different Chapters, and it affords me great pleasure to bear this testimony to their untiring efforts to collect their respective Chapters and secure a good attendance.”

Among the Representatives appointed and received, we notice the names of R. E. Comp. John M. Carter, from Canada, and R. E. Comp. J. G. Burns, to Maryland.

The following Resolutions were adopted:—

“*Resolved*,—That the decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest, that Chapters cannot confer the degrees upon clergymen without the payment of the usual fee, is in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and is hereby approved.”

“*Resolved*,—That the decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest, that Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction can receive and act upon petitions for degrees from Mark Masters advanced in a Mark Lodge, under the Provincial Grand Lodge of England, when accompanied by legal demit, is in strict accord with Masonic usage, and is hereby approved.

“*Resolved*,—That the appointment of Grand Representatives to represent this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapters named in the address, is in strict accord with the usage in this jurisdiction, and is hereby approved.

“*Resolved*,—That in view of the large and unexpected demands upon the treasury at this Convocation, it is inexpedient at this time to reprint any portion of the old records.”

Comp. E. T. Schultz reports on Correspondence. In his

notice of Canada for 1880, he has the following comments on the Address of M. E. Comp. D. Spry:—

“The last paragraph, in our opinion, touches the sore, and right on the tenderest part. Frequently the most active drummers for the Chapter and Commandery, (we would not like to even hint that there are ever any drumming for the Lodge), are often those who show the least mercy to the poor unfortunate, who is not able to pay up in full, and promptly, dues to all three bodies. A worthy brother, whose circumstances really did not justify him to advance further than the third degree, is persuaded to enter the Chapter and Commandery, after which, finding himself unable to pay dues to all three, he becomes careless and indifferent, and is finally suspended. Whereas, if he would not have advanced further than the Master's degree, he might have been able to pay his dues promptly, and become and remained a useful member of the Lodge.

“He believes that, on funeral occasions, it would be better for all Freemasons to appear in the more simple and appropriate clothing of Master Masons, and so do we.”

Comp. Schultz does not believe in soliciting for any of the degrees of Masonry. He thinks that those who require persuasion generally make luke warm members.

Under “Nebraska” he says:—

“Of course we cannot say exactly, why the rule ‘one must serve as Warden before he can be elected as Master,’ was adopted, but we think Companion Warren himself has hinted at the very best reason for the adoption of the rule. Brethren, he says, who had ‘demonstrated their fitness and skill’ were ‘promoted to be Wardens.’ Now serving as Warden, what better opportunity can be offered them of demonstrating to the brethren their ‘fitness and skill’ for the higher and more important position of Master? It surely does not require less ‘fitness and skill’ (although of a different character) to be Master now than it did in the ancient time, because the character of the fraternity has been changed from operative to speculative.

“We find this rule of gradation governed by a state of probation, running all through Masonry as well as many other things; for instance an Entered Apprentice must serve a time as such before he can be made a Fellow Craft, and he must serve as Fellow Craft before he can be made a Master Mason. In the church one must be a Deacon, and serve as such one year before he can be a Priest; must be a Priest for a time before he can be ordained Bishop. We think the rule an excellent one, especially in Masonry, and it should never be deviated from unless under very peculiar circumstances; honors in Masonry are entirely too cheap; they are often, alas, obtained without either adequate service, skill or fitness. Our experience is, that those who have served the longest in the subordinate positions invariably make the best presiding officers.

“The King and Scribe, with us at least, are not the mere figure-heads that they are regarded by some. Here these officers generally

confer the subordinate degrees of the Chapter, by which means they have the opportunity to 'demonstrate their fitness and skill,' failing to do which satisfactorily, they are turned down and others substituted, the High Priest being retained until one is found properly qualified to succeed him. The rule has been in existence in this jurisdiction ever since the formation of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter, and works well, although in isolated cases it may sometimes seem to be otherwise."

M. E. Comp. Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas (Baltimore), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George L. McCahan (Baltimore), Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At a Quarterly Convocation, held on June 8th, 1880, the following resolutions were adopted:—

"On motion of R. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, it was voted,—That a copy of the printed records for the years 1874 to 1879, inclusive, be prepared, arranged, and bound in one volume, to be preserved in the archives of this Grand Chapter, and that the same shall be duly certified by the Grand High Priest, and attested by the Grand Secretary, as a true and correct copy of the written records destroyed by fire at the burning of the office of the Grand Secretary on the 28th of December, 1879.

"On motion of E. Comp. Samuel C. Lawrence, it was voted,—That a complete set of the printed proceedings of the Grand Chapter be bound and duly authenticated as a correct copy of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and that it be preserved in the archives of the Grand Chapter as a duplicate record of its acts.

"On motion of R. E. Comp. Edwin Wright, it was voted,—That the duplicate copies of the proceedings alluded to in the motion of E. Comp. Lawrence, contain the reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and all other published reports and statistics of the Grand Chapter."

At a Quarterly Convocation, on September 7th, 1880, the following Report, adverse to the establishment of a charity fund, was adopted:—

"The committee to whom was referred the subject of a Grand Chapter charity fund submit the following report:—

"The creation of such a fund is considered unwise, unnecessary, and inexpedient, for many reasons. Neither the Grand Chapter itself, nor any committee representing it and dispensing its largesses, can be so good a judge of the needs of an individual Companion, or his widow and orphans, as the Subordinate Chapter with whom he is affiliated. The Chapters can not only more conveniently and intel-

ligently render pecuniary aid to their members, but it is their duty to do so, and is a responsibility which they should not attempt to shirk; nor do we think that there is any general desire among them to do so, but that the reverse opinion prevails. With regard to needy Companions sojourning among us, the Grand Lodge annually applies a moderate sum for their immediate necessities, dispensed by judicious brethren; often in the nature of a temporary loan, to be repaid, if possible, by the individual, or by his Lodge if he is affiliated. As all Royal Arch Masons are of course Master Masons, this class of applicants is amply provided for.

"Furthermore, the Grand Chapter is a legislative and representative body *only*, receiving certain specified sums from its constituent Chapters, which money is applied to defray its current expenses; viz.: printing, rent, necessary salaries, and expenses of Grand Officers. Our annual revenue is annually expended for these objects, with occasional small sums for charitable purposes. An organized eleemosynary system could not be carried out on a generous scale with our present income, without making extensive inroads upon our limited invested funds, which would in a very few years melt away under this increased drain, and the charity fund would vanish with it. We cannot, therefore, establish this fund without an extra annual tax levied *pro rata* upon each Chapter, to be paid in advance or at the end of the year, according to the amount disbursed. We do not believe that the Chapters desire to follow this course. If a Chapter is fortunate enough to possess ample funds, it not only *could* render aid, but would, we think, *prefer* to be the sole judge of the wants of its members and their families; while an impecunious Chapter should not be allowed, even if it desired, to cast its financial burdens upon the Grand Body, and thus draw more sustenance than it could return.

"We therefore recommend that no action be taken upon this subject of a Grand Charity Fund, and that the matter be indefinitely postponed, leaving the Subordinate Chapters to care for their members, and needy sojourners to the fostering arms of the Grand Lodge, reserving our slender resources, as heretofore, for the relief of a few rare cases of those who have rendered signal service to this Grand Chapter, or to Royal Arch Masonry."

The Eightieth Annual Convocation was held at Boston, December 7th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Waterman, G. H. P.

The Address opens as follows:—

"The Masonic year just past has been comparatively uneventful, and I have therefore no startling news to bring before you. But this quiet is not the calm of stagnation or inaction. The organization of the Grand Chapter has been rendered so near perfection by the energetic efforts of some of my predecessors in office, the machinery revolves so smoothly on its bearings, that little remains for the presiding officer but the selection of efficient officers, and to maintain a general supervision, so that 'glittering generalities' must be the burden of this report.

"No new Chapters have been petitioned for; and although some futile attempts have been made in that direction, no encouragement has been given to warrant the successful formation of any accessions to our Capitular family. Better the steady, rhythmic march of a company of sixty-eight sound and healthy bodies than one hundred organizations composed partly of raw recruits, and decimated by chronic rheumatism, necrosis, and gangrene. No new Chapter should ever be constituted without at least two Lodges from which it may have the exclusive right to draw its nourishment in the way of candidates, *nor then* unless the neighboring Chapters are not only willing but anxious to witness the new birth."

He reports the general condition of the Chapters as remarkably good, and their relations with other jurisdictions friendly. He recommends legislation with reference to the compulsory choice and record of a Mark. He was not able to find a suitable incumbent for the office of Grand Lecturer, who was willing to undertake the arduous duties.

Much of the work adopted by the General Grand Chapter was not in accord with Massachusetts custom, and it was an entirely novel scene to their Representatives at that Grand Body.

The reports of the District Deputies are very full, and show that the interests of the Craft are in good hands.

Comp. J. W. Dadmun gives another of his super-excellent Reports on Correspondence. He is a vigorous writer, holds decided opinions, and knows how to give expression to them in a clear and convincing manner. He stands in the very first rank of Masonic reporters, and we need offer no apology to our Companions for making the following extracts from his valuable report. His ideas so nearly coincide with our own, that any remarks from us would be superfluous. Besides, we intend to make this report as brief as possible, and so we will let Comp. Dadmun speak for himself.

Canada for 1880 receives a good notice.

In his notice of Alabama,

"We will say, however, that in our opinion, the cause of so much talk about the independence of the Chapter is too much modern

legislation on non-affiliation; an attempt to force affiliation, ignoring the right of each Grand Body to fix its own penalty for non-payment of dues."

"We believe that suspending or expelling a member from all the rights and privileges of Masonry without a trial is unmasonic, and we know we have Masonic law and usage on our side. Further than this: if a Grand Lodge suspends or expels a Master Mason, even un-masonically, the Chapter cannot help itself, and must cut off the Companion from all his rights in the Chapter. With this exception, the Chapter is independent in its government and discipline.

"He thinks New York is wrong in deciding that a Chapter can be worked, in any case, without the presence of the charter. But we think New York is right. While it is the general rule that a charter should be present, 'the carelessness or forgetfulness of the custodian for the time being,' as the committee say, 'should not arrest the work of the Chapter.' This is confirmed by some of the best Masonic authority."

Under "California:"

"Accordingly his Satanic Majesty—non-affiliation—may carry the day after all. Membership in a Lodge is not indispensable to membership in a Chapter, but this lasts only six months at a time, and then follow other conditions which amount to a scramble for position, the would-be non-affiliated Mason taking his turn in the 'whipping' business, by getting a member to blackball him every time he applies.

"Now, pray tell us, what is the use of so much 'fuss and feathers' over non-affiliated Masons? It is with some Masons as with some church members; all the legislation in the world will not save them to the Society. Does any one suppose that, if they have not sufficient interest to pay annual dues, they will be of any advantage to the Institution, even if they could be forced into membership? You might as well force Lucifer into heaven; it would be to him the hottest place he ever saw. They are of no earthly use but to count. As Josh Billings would say, 'See those ragamuffins standing around saloons, and at the corners of the streets. Some people think they are of no use: but let an epidemic come, and let them die off,—they will count.' So it will be with those Masons, 'in name only': if ever another anti-Masonic epidemic should come upon us, they will die off,—then they will count."

"It takes but very little legislative machinery in Massachusetts to govern that question; and we believe that we have as few non-affiliated Masons, according to our membership, as California."

Under "Maine:"

"Comp. Coxe does not say that a belief in the immortality of the soul is 'an essential tenet of Masonry,' but that 'adherence to the internal teachings' must promote such belief; and we fully endorse it. One is just as clearly taught as the other. Yes, almost at the very threshold, the candidate is taught the doctrine of immortality. Take this sacredly sublime passage for illustration: 'The Covering of a Lodge is the Clouded Canopy, or Starry-decked Heaven, where all good Masons hope at last to arrive, by the aid of a ladder, called

Jacob's Ladder, having three principal rounds, denominated Faith, Hope, and Charity; teaching faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity to all mankind. But the greatest of these is Charity, for faith may be lost in sight,—Hope ends in fruition,—but Charity extends beyond the grave, to the boundless realms of eternity.

"Then again, the most impressive scene in the third degree is based upon the doctrine of the resurrection. And thus on, from the time the candidate enters the Lodge, to the time the sprig of acacia—the immortal green—is deposited on his remains at the grave, are we taught the immortality of the soul.

"And what makes Freemasonry pre-eminent above all other human institutions is its firm hold on the fundamental truths of the Bible. It is something more than a mere human society in its foundation principles. Throw the Bible out of Masonry in America, and you would not have a 'baker's dozen' to attend its funeral."

Under "Nebraska:"

"On the objection question, he will engage in that disagreeable business of splitting hairs.

"He argues that an objection on the fourth degree should not be investigated; but on the fifth, sixth, and seventh, it should be the subject of investigation. And yet he likens our Masonic edifice to a Temple, built wholly on one floor, with one grand entrance, but different courts, all within. On the outer portal is written, 'Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love.' Now let us apply the illustration.

"The candidate passes the outer door, advances three steps to the Chapter portal, and knocks for admission. He is balloted for and unanimously elected. Some one of the brethren then objects to his entering. Have I no right to say, 'Why is this?' You say, 'No.' But I say he is my brother, and your brother, within the Temple. We have bowed at the same altar; pledged 'help, aid, and assistance' on the Book of books, in the presence of the All-seeing Eye; and on the outer door is written 'Friendship and Brotherly Love.'

"Is there but one breast, among brethren, which can contain the secret of that objection? Is he a murderer? Is he a thief, or an assassin? And must I associate with such a one anywhere within the outer door? I must know! Nay, I have a right to know. No matter now about his rights; it is my right to know as a brother within the same portals. We have made diligent enquiry concerning him; he has been pronounced worthy by his brethren, he has received the unanimous suffrage of his brethren. 'Am I my brother's keeper?' All that is sacred in a Mason's obligations answers in thunder tones, Yes?

"Admit for a moment that he has no rights within the second portal. I have rights there; and one right is to know who I am associating with, 'within the middle chamber.' If he is unworthy, put him without the outer door. But I must know; it is my right to know. But if he should gain the fourth step, and a brother should object, then, forsooth, we must all know. Why should I know then and not before? That unanimous ballot included not only the fourth, but the fifth step. On the ground of a member's rights, who can answer the question?

"The right of a member to know the grounds of an objection has hitherto been covered up under a discussion of the rights of a mere M.

M. It is about time to remove that rubbish, and get down to bed-rock. Comp. Warren says, 'At the fifth step the candidate has rights; before, he stands in the attitude of one asking a favor.' Is that good 'gold washing?' or is it giving another turn to the 'penny kaleidoscope?' But we will not be turned aside from the point we make. It is just as much my right to know at the fourth step as it is at the fifth, sixth, or seventh."

Under "Texas:"

"We will say here, we have always believed that the genius of Freemasonry as the Order was first instituted, and before private Lodges were constituted, as they now exist, naturally placed all 'on an equal footing,' and sanctioned the voting of visitors on applications for the degrees; and Texas in this respect, is in Ancient Style, after the style of Universal Freemasonry. But Subordinates have become so private and local in their organizations that it is useless to attempt to bring them back to first principles. And we fear the Grand Bodies are becoming so local and independent that we shall soon be obliged to say, "Farewell to Ancient Freemasonry."

Under "West Virginia:"

"He decided that 'an applicant for the degrees must be a M. M. in good standing, and to be in good standing he must be a member of some Lodge.' The Committee on Jurisprudence did not agree with him, giving as a reason that the Grand Lodge had not decided 'that a non-affiliated M. M. was not in good standing.'

"Now, how can a Grand Lodge or a Grand Chapter consistently declare a M. M. not to be in good standing, simply because he may be unaffiliated? To do so, in our opinion, is absurd,—contrary to truth and sound common-sense. We will suppose a Grand Lodge has passed such a law, and that a M. M. within the jurisdiction asks for and obtains a dimit,—agreeably to its own laws,—which is an honorable discharge from membership in the Lodge, and gives him the right to apply to any Lodge for admission. If he is not in 'good standing,' the Grand Lodge, having authorized the dimit, contradicts itself.

"To surmount this absurdity, the Grand Lodge passes a law that a M. M. is not in good standing if he remained unaffiliated over six months. The dimitted brother, wishing to retain his good standing, applies for membership and is rejected. There are no charges against him, but he now remains an involuntary unaffiliated Mason over six months, or it may be twelve months.

"What then? Another law must be passed to get over this logical contradiction,—for his non-affiliation now is not his fault,—which is, if he pay annual dues to some Lodge he is in good standing; and yet he can have no voice in any of the transactions of the Lodge where he pays his dues—'taxation without representation.'

"The Companions who pass such a law, if thus treated by the civil government would arm themselves within twenty-four hours, and fight for their 'God-given rights;' and no one would blame them, either.

"What we have succinctly described is a specimen of modern legislation on non-affiliation. It is a species of 'Boycotting,'—an attempt to socially ostracise unaffiliated Masons, voluntary and involuntary alike."

His conclusion is also excellent :

"How to deal justly and honorably with unaffiliated Masons, and how to discipline delinquents for non-payment of dues, are grave questions, which must be handled with care, if we would preserve the universality of Freemasonry. Just in proportion as the Grand Bodies become localized and exclusive, by unwise and unmasonic legislation, the Institution will depreciate in power and influence, and become no better than a thousand and one local organizations, which spring up in a day, and almost as soon die, with none to mourn their departure. Look at the Grand Orient of France: by her atheistical legislation, she has removed one of the old landmarks, localized herself, and made French Masonry a reproach and by-word to the Masonic and Christian world. Thus it may be with any other Masonic jurisdiction which attempts to remove any of the ancient landmarks of the Order.

"Let us now state a few principles leading to, and touching, the questions above named.

"Before the organization of private or particular Lodges, as they now exist, a candidate was received, by virtue of his initiation, into full membership of the Fraternity, which gave him a claim to the 'help, aid, and assistance' of his brethren, wherever he might sojourn on the face of the globe. 'This'—Charles W. Moore has said—'is Ancient Freemasonry, and it is Universal Freemasonry.'

"Chartered Lodges, as they now exist, were organized as private associations of Masons, with by-laws—not to conflict with the 'Constitutions of Freemasonry'—guaranteeing special benefits to their members, in addition to those general rights acquired by initiation.

"For these special benefits, additional fees or dues are charged, the fee for the degrees having been paid in full; and when a member chooses to discontinue his membership, he is entitled to a dimit—which means an honorable discharge—if he is in good standing in his Lodge.

"Voluntary membership, in Subordinate Lodges, has always been considered the right of every Mason; and it is absurd to attempt to force affiliation, while they have the right and power to reject applicants for membership.

"Deprivation of membership, according to general usage, has been considered the highest penalty for non-payment of dues; and non-payment of dues has not been considered a Masonic crime, within the meaning of the O. B. We fully indorse the Old Constitution, when it says, 'Every Mason ought to belong to some Lodge;' but it does not say 'shall,' under the penalty of suspension from all the rights of Masonry; if it did, it would be falsifying the Masonic signature, which is stamped upon every diploma and every dimit, and it would be equivalent to declaring an honorable discharge dishonorable.

"The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts prints these words on every copy of her Proceedings:—

"'In union with the Most Ancient and Honorable Grand Lodges in Europe and America, according to the Old Constitution.'"

M. E. Comp. Thomas Waterman (146 Boylston St., Boston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Z. H. Thomas (Cambridgeport,) Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held at East Saginaw, January 18th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Samuel H. Norton, G. H. P.

The address is a business-like paper, and treats almost solely of local affairs. He reports one new Chapter.

The Grand Secretary says there has been a steady increase of work during the past year. He has made but little progress in the way of additions to the library, owing to the increased difficulty of obtaining exchanges.

A resolution to appoint a committee to look into the Grand Chapter work was lost.

The Grand Secretary, Comp. William P. Innes, has an extensive and elaborate Report on Correspondence, covering 182 pages. He notices the Proceedings of Canada for 1880.

M. E. Comp. Charles H. Axtell (Ionia,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William P. Innes (Grand Rapids,) Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The nineteenth Annual Convocation was held at St. Paul, October 12th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Thomas Montgomery, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest decided that a ballot should not be had unless at least nine members of the Chapter were present.

On the subject of Official Visitations, he says:—

“A resolution was adopted in 1874, providing for official visitations of Chapters by the Grand Council. In 1876 an attempt was made to carry out the design of the resolution, with fair success. No pro-

vision, however, was made for defraying the expenses of the Grand officers in the discharge of this duty, and hence for the past three years official visitations have principally been confined to those Chapters which formerly requested them. While many polite verbal invitations have been extended to me during the past year, I regret to say that other duties frequently interfered to prevent my accepting. My knowledge of the state of the Order has therefore not been obtained so much from personal visitations as it has from information received by letter during the past month from nearly every Chapter in the State, for which I tender the writers my sincere thanks. These reports disclose a marked difference between different Chapters as to their growth and prosperity. Why is it that in some localities the Chapter flourishes, the attendance is good, a general interest is taken in the work, the finances are in a healthy condition, and there are constant accessions to the membership, while in others, which seem to be situated no less favorably, the opposite of this is true? I think much depends on the H. P., but he alone cannot make the meetings of his Chapter attractive and interesting. He should have the assistance of every member, but especially the hearty co-operation of his council associates and other officers. The H. P. should always be ready to dispense true Masonic light, knowledge and truth, or provide that it be done, for the benefit of uninformed brethren, nor should any Lodge or Chapter be closed until something is added to the general storehouse of knowledge. Thus may men of worth and mental attainments be retained within our mystic circle, and become honored craftsmen; who, hearing nothing but a repetition of the opening and closing exercises, and that often imperfectly given, drift off, and by their non-attendance and apathy do the Order more harm than good.

"The avenues to knowledge are now so numerous, and information on Masonic subjects so accessible, through the many published books and magazines, that no presiding officer of Lodge or Chapter is excusable that neglects his duty in this respect.

"I am happy to say that on the whole our Order is enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity, and so far as I can ascertain, peace, love and unity prevail in all our borders. There has not been a very rapid increase in membership, but this, of itself, need not seriously grieve us. 'It is not the quantity but the quality of the membership to which we should look and which should excite pride and admiration.'"

We also copy his remarks on decorum in conferring degrees, and the qualifications of candidates:—

"A promiscuous custom, having a tendency to mar the otherwise impressive ceremonies of some of our degrees, prevails, I fear, in many Chapters. I allude to the practice of making sport at the expense of the candidate. Such conduct deserves the severest censure, and ought not to be tolerated by any H. P. For want of due decorum, it often happens that the symbolism of what should be a solemn and impressive ceremony is entirely lost sight of; the candidate feels that he is being trifled with and degraded, and members of a refined, dignified or sensitive nature are often disgusted.

"I insist that there is a wealth of meaning in all our ceremonies that their symbolic teachings are simply sublime, and that no candidate should be deprived of the full benefit of that to which he is justly entitled, by the foolish and senseless, not to say inhuman practice, which so often mars the beauty and sublimity, especially, of the Royal Arch degree.

"I recommend that this G. Chapter set the seal of its condemnation on all such frivolity and nonsense in the work, and require it to be done in an orderly and impressive manner.

"I would further recommend that every candidate be required to fully satisfy the H. P. by actual examination, conducted by him, or by a committee appointed by him, that he has a correct knowledge of all the means of recognition and moral teachings of all the preceding degrees, and such a portion of the lecture of each degree as the H. P. may deem necessary, before he shall be allowed to pass to a higher degree, especially before he shall receive the Royal Arch degree. My reason for this recommendation is, that many brethren, I am told, only use the Chapter degrees as stepping-stones to the commandery, which having once entered they neglect their Chapter, having but little knowledge or appreciation of its teachings; increasing the difficulty of obtaining a quorum in the Chapter in many places, and also resulting, so far as the Companion is concerned, in his never receiving any further instruction at all."

The following report was adopted:—

"Your committee to whom was referred so much of the Annual Address of Most Excellent Grand High Priest as refers to decorum in the chapter work, report that we are well pleased with the suggestions of the Grand High Priest on this subject. We deem them timely, appropriate and of great importance. We, therefore, most heartily approve the position taken, and this Grand Chapter does, therefore, urge upon all Chapters in this jurisdiction, that in all degrees, and especially in the Royal Arch, great care be taken that no act or manner be indulged to distract the mind of the candidate, or divert his thoughts from the valuable lessons we seek to impress upon him. And we recommend to the High Priest and other officers of the Chapter that they be vigilant, and if need be, urgent in pressing upon the Companions the importance of this matter.

"Further, we think the most efficient means to this end is frequent explanation of the historical, allegorical and symbolical lessons contained in the degrees, thus leading the minds of the Companions to a contemplation of the real lessons back of the ceremonies."

Comp. Orville G. Miller presented his credentials as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and was received as such, with the usual ceremonies.

Comp. A. T. C. Pierson reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1880. Numerous extracts are given from the address of Comp. Spry, and from our report.

In his review of the District of Columbia, we find the following:—

“We remember an instance when, long years ago, it was proposed to elevate a brother to one of the highest positions in the Grand Lodge. The brother was a zealous Masonic student, held a prominent position at the bar, and a man of marked ability. When he became aware of the proposal he rose and declined, stating that he was incapacitated from the fact that he was so tenacious of his opinions that he never could acknowledge himself in error.”

* * * * *

“As a general principle we hold that one who is good enough to be kept in good standing in his Lodge, is good enough to have his degree completed by being exalted.”

* * * * *

“Each of our Lodges, Chapters, &c., says to the world, we will for a consideration increase our numbers upon certain conditions, which conditions are made known.

“A. makes application, subject to the conditions, and deposits the required consideration; the Body through a committee makes enquiry relative to the conditions; upon its report those present say—by ballot—we are satisfied or dissatisfied; if the latter, the deposit is returned and that ends the matter; if the former, the time is fixed for the work to be commenced, subject to an expression by some member not present at the balloting; if no objection intervenes the work is commenced, and right there is the beginning of the contract, and from that point—the reception of a degree—the simple ‘I object’ is not sufficient to bar progress; but it does not follow that of necessity the remaining degrees must be conferred; the work may be stopped for sufficient reasons by either the Body or the Presiding Officer.”

Under “Texas” we find the following history, and Comp. Pierson is generally perfectly correct on that subject. He has made it a special study, and knows more about it than most of us:—

“In his comments on our report of last year, Comp. Elgin says:—

“‘The Grand Chapter of England confers all the degrees mentioned above except the Mark; and the Grand Chapter of Scotland all except the Past (which was formerly conferred), and the Grand Chapters of Canada, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island, confer them all—from whence do they derive their authority? Are they infringed on the patent right of the General Grand Chapter? Were not these degrees all worked before the General Grand Chapter had its existence? If you come to considering prior rights, you may find that body has been infringing on old patents, or appropriating other people’s inventions and claiming the sole right to use them.’

“And yet there are Masons even who do not hesitate to say that Foreign Correspondence reports are of no account. The first two lines quoted above contains information entirely new to us.

"We suppose that the Most Excellent Master's degree was unknown in England, until within a dozen years past. Oliver classes it as an American degree.

"We somehow had got the impression that a few years since a Grand Lecturer of the State of New York visited England, carrying with him some kind of authority from the then Grand High Priest of New York, to communicate the M. E. M. degree; and that that was the first introduction of the degree in Europe.

"We are in pursuit of information, and, in order to obtain it, are willing to expose our ignorance. We supposed that in Scotland the Past and Red Cross Degrees were styled 'Chair Master Degrees' and that the only cognizance taken of them by the Grand Chapter of Scotland was that the degrees were a necessary preliminary to the Royal Arch.

"The Grand Chapter of England and Scotland have not exhibited any great amount of slothfulness if each has incorporated in its system a degree so soon after its introduction in their jurisdiction.

"Were not these degrees all worked before the General Grand Chapter had its existence?"

"Where Comp. Elgin? We never so understood it. If they were then we have been at fault, lo! these many years, and our reading all wrong. We supposed that the 'Mark' was arranged from a degree styled 'Master Mark Mason.' Webb and Hammer had the ritual of the latter. That the M. E. M. was made up of whole cloth, to fill up the hiatus between the ante-completion and the destruction of the Temple. Hiram quit before the work was finished, so it is claimed; next, after a good many years, comes the destruction, that left a big hole, so the M. E. M. was arranged, and it made a pretty good filling. The R. A. was a very different production from the half dozen or more degrees with that cognomen that were then—1797—practised.

"We must confess that we believe the General Grand Chapter had 'prior rights,' if the inventing, arranging, and first promulgation give prior rights.

"In Virginia it was the 'Super Excellent Royal Arch' and in Pennsylvania the 'Holy Royal Arch,' differing not only in name but ritual. If those bodies have assimilated in later years, that is another matter. We believe that Virginia did, about 1820, change her system, having it in contemplation to join the General Grand Chapter. Enlighten us Comp. Elgin, if our premises are wrong."

He condemns the Pennsylvania resolutions, as we did last year, and thus explains their position:—

"In Minnesota Master Masons, whose names have been stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, are declared by the constitution of the Grand Lodge to occupy the position of non-affiliates, and as such are entitled to all the amenities accorded to non-affiliates.

"Again, in this jurisdiction, Chapter membership does not depend upon Lodge membership; a Companion not a member of a Lodge may be a member of a Chapter and hold any office in Subordinate or Grand Body.

"In Minnesota striking the name from the roll of membership in

any Masonic body is simply depriving the party of the privileges depending upon membership.

"By the foregoing resolution Pennsylvania says that Royal Arch Masons in good standing in Minnesota—no matter if even an officer of the Grand Body—cannot be admitted to visit one of its Chapters, if his name had been stricken from the roll of membership in a Blue Lodge.

"Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction visiting Pennsylvania will take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

"We cannot avoid the conclusion that the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, a jurisdiction that has prided itself upon its adherence to old customs and usages, and is generally regarded in Masonry as a model, is becoming modernized."

M. E. Comp. W. G. Bronson (Stillwater), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. A. T. C. Pierson (St. Paul), Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at Jackson, February 7th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Frederic Speed, G. H. P.

On the state of the Order, Comp. Speed says:—

"Our Chapters, with few exceptions, are languishing, and a degree of apathy has fallen upon the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction, which it would be folly to attempt to conceal, even if it were the part of wisdom to do so. The causes of this condition of affairs are not of easy ascertainment, though it is believed that if all the material which has been worked into our symbolic structure had received the same careful scrutiny which the stones laid into the walls of our great Masonic prototype, the Temple of Solomon, received at the hands of the inspectors, we would not now be lamenting the fact that in some places our walls are crumbling beneath a weight which the use of improperly prepared stones has not given it the requisite strength to sustain.

"As not every stone is suited for use in the erection of a material structure, so it is not every man who is fitted by temperament and education to be worked into our symbolic edifice. As my predecessor so well said, in his address to you last year: 'Freemasonry is no asylum for the profane. It is not an institution of reform. It covets no such distinction as this. The standard by which it measures a man is perfection. The man who would be made a Mason must first be prepared in heart, and his reception into the Order is not for the purpose of making him a good man, but because he is already a good man and true.'

"In my judgment, the unnecessary multiplication of Bodies has produced the legitimate result which ought to have been foreseen. Every Chapter for which there was not a pressing necessity, was an

instrument pregnant with danger to the Craft. When organizations are effected there must be something for them to do, and the natural consequence is that they seek for material, instead of leaving the material to seek them; and when the number of candidates is not sufficient to provide a sufficiency of revenue to meet the expenses, it becomes a prime necessity that they should be secured. There are instances when this has been done regardless of consequences, and it is believed that many men have found their way into the Chapter who never would have entered its courts but for the fact that the members have stifled their scruples in order to replenish a depleted treasury."

He reports two new Chapters. He decided that nine members of the Chapter must be present to constitute a quorum for the election of officers. We quote his remarks on reading Masons:—

"It has long been a question with me as to whether it has been good policy to restrict the distribution of the Proceedings of Masonic Grand Bodies to those entitled to receive them by virtue of their official positions.

"The meetings of Grand Bodies come and go unnoticed by the vast majority of the Craft, who neither care for nor heed what is done by them. I am persuaded that if it were to be generally understood that the printed proceedings could be procured at a nominal cost, and presiding officers were to exert themselves a little to encourage their purchase, a demand for them would soon be created, and, as a consequence, an interest would be developed which would be productive of the happiest results. The reports of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence are usually well written, and are replete with information which is of the greatest value to the fraternity, but how many persons have an opportunity to read them? All Masons profess to be searching for more light, and no intelligent man who has been properly instructed in the preliminary steps, can fail to feel a strong degree of interest in becoming acquainted with the history, literature, law, usages, and jurisprudence of Masonry. The more one reads, the more he wants to read when he has once entered upon this interesting field of investigation. A knowledge of the ritual is certainly very commendable, but it has been my fortune to know some men who could confer all the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, 'just as they received them,' and yet who never conceived the idea that it was not all verity itself. I have even heard it gravely argued that there must be some mistake about the matter, because the legend of the Master's Degree was not recorded in the Scriptures, and that in some mysterious way the account of the interesting events therein narrated were omitted by the translators. All their lives these non-reading Masons are

'Dropping buckets into empty wells,
And growing old in drawing nothing up,'

although living springs are bubbling forth within easy reach. There are but few men who are capable of becoming bright Masons if the faculty of repeating the ritual 'word for word,' is the true test, but I

am fully persuaded that there are vast numbers who have turned away unsatisfied after hearing the ritual repeated a few score times, and who soon thereafter found their way into the ranks of that noble army of martyrs, the non-affiliates—disappointed because they only inspected the surface, and never suspected that there is a vast accumulation of wealth lying beneath the symbols which Masonry employs to conceal, rather than to reveal, its choicest treasures. A recent writer has said that Bro. Albert Pike, whose erudition in the history and philosophy of Masonry places him in the very highest rank, has been heard to remark, ‘that he himself had but just made a beginning in the great domain of Masonic lore and science, and that every day he discovered something new, and learned something about Masonry.’ I suggest that the experiment be made of requiring the High Priests of Chapters to canvass their membership, and to procure lists of those who desire to obtain copies of our proceedings, and that a price sufficient to cover the actual cost of printing be established, at which they may be sold by the Grand Secretary.

“In this connection, I desire to invite your attention to the recent organization of a Masonic Collector’s Association, the object of which is to collect and preserve everything appertaining to the history, ritual, laws and usages of Freemasonry. To assist in this work, I recommend that our proceedings be supplied gratis to each of the members of this Association. The number is small, and the expense will be but little, while the fact that they are placed where they are appreciated, and will be preserved, and will go towards the formation of libraries which, in a few years, will be invaluable, will justify the slight assistance it is in our power to render in the promotion of the laudable object of this Association.”

On the same subject, the following Report was adopted:—

“Your Committee on Printing, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest as suggests the propriety of a more general reading by the members of Chapters of the proceedings of Grand Chapter, by the sale of copies of same at actual cost of publication, beg leave to report that we heartily concur in the recommendation, but are of opinion that it will not be accomplished in the way proposed. High Priests may be required, as suggested, to canvass among the Companions as to who might wish to purchase the proceedings, but we apprehend many would overlook such a requirement. We think the best way to insure a more general perusal of the proceedings is to increase the number of copies printed—say from 500 to 1,000, and distribute them in due proportion to the membership of the Chapters. The additional cost would be comparatively little. The expense of printing 500 copies of our proceedings is \$1.50 per printed page; the cost of 1,000 copies would not exceed \$2.25 per page.

“In this connection, we call attention to the fact that it has been six or seven years since the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and the By-Laws of Subordinate Chapters, have been published in pamphlet form. We recommend that a Committee be appointed, our Grand High Priest as Chairman, to prepare the same for publication, including all resolutions and the substance of all adopted reports having the force and effect of law, and that one thousand copies of same be printed, and distributed to the Chapters as soon as practicable.”

The following is the Report of the Committee on the state of the Order:—

“Your Committee on so much of the Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest as relates to the condition of the Masonic Order in your Grand Jurisdiction, report:

“That they have looked upon the question with great concern for many years, and the solution of the problem seems difficult to attain. Experience is a good teacher, but your Committee have found by observation that there has been perhaps too much of the progress of the age inculcated into our system to keep it healthy.

“We concur in the views of the M. E. Grand High Priest, as expressed in his address, and with him unite in deprecating the condition of Capitular Masonry in your Grand Jurisdiction.

“Your Committee believe that the causes which have produced the present condition of our Order began some twenty-five or thirty years ago, when Masonry took a rebound—became exceedingly popular, and Lodges began to increase until there was a Lodge instituted at nearly every village, railroad depot and cross roads in the State.

“The rule that a new Lodge should not be created nearer than ten miles of an existing Lodge, was either abrogated or violated, and Lodges became so numerous that it became necessary for their existence that every man in their bounds should be brought in by some means, and as a natural sequence a vast amount of defective material was worked into our moral and Masonic edifice that was not very fit for the building.

“The officers of many of the small Lodges were not well skilled in the ritual, and many Masons were made without ever acquiring a knowledge of the art to enable them to pass among intelligent brethren. Chapters must be increased, too, to meet the supposed demands of progress, and where there ought not to have been more than one Chapter in a county, we find there have been as high as 110 Chapters in the State, which has but 74 counties, and many of them not able to keep up a Chapter at all.

“The conclusion of your Committee is, that we have too many Lodges—a great want of Masonic intelligence in the ritual, the legendary history and philosophy of our ancient and honorable Order—too many Masons, unless they are well skilled in the Royal Art—too many Chapters—too much ignorance, we may say, without meaning to cast reproach on our Companions, and a total want, in many localities, of the true spirit of Masonry, especially in the Chapters, to carry on their work, and keep up their organizations.

“How many Chapters in the State can confer the degrees with credit to themselves and honor to the Craft? We will not answer the question, but leave it to each one to answer it conscientiously for itself.

“Your Committee thank the Grand High Priest for calling attention to this important subject, and we commend his address to the careful consideration of every Royal Arch Mason in your jurisdiction.

“Your Committee look upon another aspect of the case with fearful apprehensions, and we cannot speak too plainly of a practice which prevails, we fear, to an alarming degree. It is that of making Royal

Arch Masons out of Masons who cannot bear an examination on any of the preceding degrees, and when a class applies for the Chapter degrees they are put through in the shortest possible time, without understanding anything about it. How can we expect to succeed in making intelligent Masons with such loose practices?

"The idea of a candidate for the Capitular Degrees waiting a month after taking the Mark Degree, and being required to bear an examination on that degree before advancing to another, would be regarded as a preposterous proposition in the opinion of your Committee.

"We are progressing too fast. We must make a retrograde movement and respect the ancient rules, regulations and practices if we expect to succeed in Royal Arch Masonry, by teaching the ritual as perfectly as possible."

The plan of having Reports from the Grand Representatives has resulted better than we expected it would; no less than 18 such Reports were submitted and read. Among them we are glad to notice one from Comp. A. H. Barkley, the Grand Representative of Canada.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Phineas M. Savary, and notices Canada for 1880. His conclusion is excellent:—

"Our second, and we presume our last Report on Correspondence, is finished. We have enjoyed a feast of good things in the perusal of the proceedings that we were fortunate enough to receive, and we regret very much that we could not have access to all. From the twenty-seven copies of proceedings of as many different Grand Chapters we have culled a little only of the valuable information therein contained. The circumscribed goblet furnished by the Grand Chapter will hold but a few drops of the nectar that in some Grand Jurisdictions bubbles and foams unrestrained in Herculean breakers, but if there is one Companion of our Grand Chapter who entertains the thought that these annual reviews are worthless, and that 'tis time misspent to read them, we ask that he may be appointed Reporter for the Grand Chapter one year, and that he be required to inspect, read and comment on the proceedings submitted to him—then we are confident that 'be he ever so blind,' his sight will be restored; 'ever so deaf,' he will hear again; and were he 'aforetime paralyzed,' his sense of feeling would be renewed, and he would ever thereafter esteem it a privilege unsurpassed by any other enjoyed in Masonic work. If he admires eloquence, he will find the genuine article in many of the addresses of the Grand High Priests; is he charmed with poesy, the choicest gems have been gathered, and Reports on Correspondence are studded with its brilliants. Is he a searcher after the great truths that to so many Companions are even hidden from view? Within these reports the rubbish has been often removed and knowledge shines forth as the sun. Is he a stickler for Masonic Law, he will find therein decisions of Masonic giants in Jurisprudence; and if he dreams that

his forte is controversy, there he can find ample opportunity to display his skill whether it be with the reporter's broad-sword, battle-axe, lance or winged arrow, for there are many veterans in the ranks of the Mutuals whose hacked swords, dented helmets and battered shields prove them to be 'no carpet knights' but foemen worthy of his steel."

M. E. Comp. Frederick Speed (Vicksburg), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. L. Power (Jackson), Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

The Thirty-third Annual Convocation was held at St. Louis, May 6th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Noah M. Givan, G. H. P.

We copy three of his decisions:—

"First—A citizen of Colorado who is a non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason, but who is an affiliated Master Mason, may petition a Chapter in Missouri for affiliation and membership, and it is competent for the Chapter to receive and act upon such petition as though the petitioner was a resident of this State. The law of the Grand Lodge of Missouri is, that a Mason's residence has nothing to do with his Masonic rights or privileges, or the location of his Masonic home, and the law of the Grand Chapter should be in harmony with it.

"Second—After a Companion has been notified to appear and show cause why he should not be suspended for non-payment of dues, pursuant to Sec. 27, Art. 3, of the Constitution as amended, he cannot vote in the Chapter on the trial of other Companions until after his case is disposed of favorably to himself. The effect of the notice is to place the Companion under charges for non-payment of dues, and he is not entitled to vote while such charges remain." * * *

"Fifth—A Companion who has been suspended for non-payment of dues in a given sum embraced in the charge and specification, upon payment of that sum is restored to membership in the Chapter, although he may still owe for dues prior to the date of his suspension, not embraced in the charge and specification for which he was suspended."

This last decision was over-ruled by the Grand Chapter. The Committee on the Address, whose report was adopted, say that the Chapter is not bound by the erroneous statement of the Secretary, and that the suspended Companion, in order to be re-instated, must pay the actual amount of dues owing. They think that it is never too late to correct errors among Companions. With all of which we agree.

On the condition of the Craft, the Grand High Priest says that the Chapters are generally in a prosperous condition. He received no application for a new Chapter, but thinks that this is no discouraging indication, as a few healthy, live and active Chapters are better than many sickly ones.

He is severe on Comp. Byers, of Colorado, who, in his report, dared to make mention of an "African Grand Chapter of Missouri," we suppose, simply as a matter of information. Comp Givan says:—

"My attention has been called to the fact that Comp. William N. Byers, Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Colorado, and author of the Report on Foreign Correspondence made to the Grand Chapter of Colorado in 1878, after very briefly reviewing our proceedings in 1876 and 1877, devoted about as much space, in the same connection, to a spurious organization which he calls the 'First Independent African Grand Royal Arch Chapter,' and which he recognizes as another Grand Chapter belonging to Missouri. As stated by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, this 'is an insult to every regular Grand Chapter in this country.' It is especially an insult to this Grand Chapter which should not go unrebuked. The organization of which our Colorado Representative speaks, is not recognized by this or any other Grand Chapter as a legitimate body. Its existence was unknown to us until the Colorado Committee published it to the world. It does not claim even to be a Missouri institution, but has subordinates in Kentucky, Texas, Kansas, and may ere this have some in Colorado.

"Our Colorado Representative must have been grossly ignorant, or else his review of that clandestine body in connection with this Grand Chapter was intended as an insult to the Grand Chapter of Missouri. In either event he is unworthy to longer represent us, and I recommend that his Commission as our Representative near the Grand Chapter of Colorado be revoked."

The action of the Grand Chapter on this matter is given in the following paragraph from the Report of the Committee on the Address, which was adopted:—

"Your Committee recommend that this Grand Chapter approve of the suggestion made by the Grand High Priest as to revoking the Commission of Comp. W. N. Byers, as Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Colorado, and the appointment of some Companion whose Masonry is of a different *complexion* and *odor* in his place."

And so Comp. Byers had his head summarily cut off,

without being afforded an opportunity of justifying or explaining his conduct, and the Grand Chapter added insult to injury, by an insinuation totally unworthy of place in a Masonic document. Verily, our Missouri Companions must have gone "negro mad."

The following is the Report of the Grand Lecturer:

"During the year I have visited every Chapter that required my services, being about twenty in all. I have also given much time, while visiting Lodges where Chapters were located, to private instruction of officers of Chapters. The Chapters are, as a rule, in excellent condition, in good halls and well furnished. The work, wherever I have witnessed it, is well done. If any fault were to be found, it is, that while properly discarding the rudeness and levity formerly too much practiced, some have gone to the opposite extreme, and while performing the ceremonies with all due seriousness, have rendered them somewhat tame and commonplace, in not giving them with that vim and earnestness which makes them attractive alike to candidates and spectators. This results largely from a laudable desire not to offend taste and propriety by overdoing, and partly from inefficient arrangements for properly and effectively conferring portions of the degrees. With returning prosperity in business circles, the amount of work done has increased, and is yet steadily increasing. While none of the Chapters are overburdened with work, a majority have had an ample amount of good material presented.

"As the Grand Lodge has made some necessary changes in its work, I respectfully suggest, for the sake of uniformity, that corresponding changes be made in the work of the Grand Chapter."

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. William H. Mayo, and is his first attempt, and is very creditable to him. Canada for 1878 is noticed.

He does not seem to comprehend the difference between a deprivation of Lodge membership for non-payment of dues, and a suspension for un-Masonic conduct, but he will probably learn these delicate points after a little more experience.

M. E. Comp. James E. Cadle (Chillicothe), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. Mayo (St. Louis), Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

The fourteenth Annual Convocation was held at Fremont, December 21st, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Alfred G. Hastings, G. H. P.

His decisions were as follows:—

“1. It is not necessary, nor even proper, to summon a Companion, who is under suspension by his Lodge, to show cause why he should not be suspended by the Chapter.

“2. When a Companion is suspended by his Lodge, and the Chapter has official or positive knowledge of that fact, it is the duty of the High Priest to order his suspension to be entered upon the rolls of the Chapter, and reported as such on the annual returns, when the subordinate Chapter would be relieved from payment of Grand Chapter dues.

“3. In this jurisdiction, any Royal Arch Mason who is a member of the Chapter is entitled to the degrees of Royal and Select Master without a ballot.

“4. Every Royal Arch Mason has all the rights and benefits of the Chapter without taking the Council Degrees, but would not be permitted to sit in a Council of Royal and Select Masters.”

He appointed R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson as their Representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada.

—We extract part of his conclusion:—

“I desire to call your special attention to the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which is before you, and, as you will all recognize, is from the pen of that able writer and efficient worker, Past Grand High Priest Edwin F. Warren; and although the labor in preparing these Reports on Foreign Correspondence is ‘long and tedious,’ and the travel through the Proceedings of the several Grand Chapters is ‘rugged and dangerous,’ yet he has overcome every obstacle and braved every danger, and presented us with a report of which the Grand Chapter of Nebraska may be justly proud, and I but express the desire of every member who reads it, and we hope all will. May he long continue.

“While some of our Chapters during the past year have given good evidence, by their growth and prosperity, of the activity and zeal which actuated them in the organization of their Chapters, and their numbers are being constantly augmented by Masons from the older States, as well as by exaltations in the Chapters, yet some of our number have but a feeble and sickly existence, owing to the neglect of the officers and members to attend the regular meetings of the Chapter; and this neglect and consequent death of the Chapter is so apparent in some cases as to require some decisive action by this Grand Chapter, and we hope that some action will be taken that will cause them to renew their activity and zeal and thus revive their almost dead Chapters, or surrender their charters.

“While we recognize the fact that the strength of our institution is not in its numbers but in the moral worth and zeal of its members, yet dead and dormant Chapters, like non-affiliated members, are bar-

nacles upon the body of Masonry, and should be promptly dealt with."

The following resolution was adopted:--

"*Resolved*, That the Chapters subordinate to the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska be directed to require of all visitors for examination from other jurisdictions, prior to admission, a declaration in the following words: I do not stand suspended or expelled for any cause whatever, neither has my name been stricken from the roll of members, nor have I been suspended from membership for non-payment of dues in my Lodge of Master Masons, or my Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

An amendment to the Constitution was laid over till next year, providing that no one shall be elected High Priest of a Chapter without previous service as either King or Scribe.

Comp. Edwin F. Warren has an excellent Report on Correspondence. Canada for 1880 receives notice. He speaks of Comp. Spry's address as one of marked ability. On the subject of Special Dispensations, he has the following, in our opinion, very sensible remarks:--

"He issued dispensations to instal Companions who had been elected High Priest, notwithstanding they had never served as King or Scribe. That is a new way to get at it. We believe such a Companion ought to be held eligible, and that he is so in the absence of some constitutional provision, but we doubt whether the Grand High Priest can, by dispensation, declare him eligible to an office whom the Constitution declares disqualified. Keep within the law, if you have one; if not, then make a law."

On our last report, he says:--

"He complains of the action of the Grand Chapters of California and Pennsylvania, which require an applicant to visit to declare that his 'name has not been stricken from the roll of members for non-payment of dues in his Lodge or Chapter,' says such action is a violation of Masonic comity; that when, notwithstanding certain disabilities are pronounced against him, a Mason is declared by the supreme law in his own jurisdiction to be in good standing, it is arrogance, or worse, for us or any other Grand Chapter to insist that he is not in good standing. And there is a modicum of reason and sound law in his position. But, Companion Robertson, is it not competent for the Grand Chapter of Nebraska to declare who may be admitted to our subordinates? to declare that any Mason, suspended for any cause, or 'stricken from the roll,' or 'excluded from membership,' shall not be allowed to visit our Chapters? It does seem to us that the right to make such a regulation exists. Let us illustrate: Suppose the

Grand Chapter of Canada, by a clause in its Constitution, should declare the wives of all Past Grand Zs. eligible to receive the degrees, and, when so conferred, the ladies to be in good standing, would it be a violation of 'comity' in us to exclude them?

"No French Mason can visit our Lodges now, although they are declared to be in good standing in France, when made. Is this a violation of Masonic law or usage? Unless, therefore, you say that no Grand Chapter can define for itself who are in 'good standing'—in other words, who are worthy a seat at our Convocations, the Grand Chapters of California and Pennsylvania are clearly right in their regulation. If they have not the power—or right—then, of course, their action is indefensible, and it seems to us that Companions Robertson and Drummond are wrong in insisting that their own interpretation is to be accepted without question in other jurisdictions, nor do we think a Grand Chapter 'violates the Masonic obligations' when it does so legislate. But this question will doubtless be obsolete before another year.

"But time and space are alike fully used. We like the positive tone of our Canadian craftsman, and feel a degree of respect for a man who defends even a wrong principle sturdily, when we can see that he is honest in his opinions. When we accuse Companion Robertson of defending 'wrong principles,' we are aware, of course, that he has the right to characterize our utterances as heterodox, and that would make it even."

We acknowledge, without hesitation, that any Grand Chapter may make such regulations as it pleases regarding the admission of visitors. We have the same right, and if our members in good standing, are debarred from visiting in Nebraska, we may also prohibit their members in good standing from visiting here. What we complain of is, that these resolutions violate what we have always understood to be a maxim of inter-jurisdictional Masonic custom, that a Mason's standing at home determines his standing abroad. France is hardly a case in point. The whole craft there is under a ban, but not until after they have been fully warned of the consequences of their proposed action, and disregarding those warnings, they persisted, and accepted all the results.

The other illustration of Comp. Warren is equally out of place. When such a case arises, it will be time enough to consider it then, and we would expect some unfavorable comments. But in this case, we decline to punish the non-payment of dues with the same severity as un-Masonic con-

duct. We think that the two offences should not be placed on a par. We think that un-Masonic conduct should render the offender liable to greater punishment than the non-payment of dues. This is simply a matter of local regulation, and of detail in our management, which we surely have a right to provide for. And because we do this, because we are more merciful to our poor Companions than others are, we are condemned. Other Grand Chapters say to us that we shall not do so, and that if we do, our members will not be permitted to visit. No doubt these Grand Chapters have the right to be as uncourteous and as unfraternal as they please, but none will deny us the right to tell them just what we think about their action.

M. E. Comp. H. Baxter Nicodemus (Fremont,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William R. Bowen (Omaha,) Grand Secretary.

NEVADA.

The seventh Annual Convocation was held at Virginia, June 7th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. David E. Baily, G. H. P.

The Address is brief, and confined to local affairs.

The following report was adopted:—

“Your Committee, appointed at the last Grand Convocation, to whom was referred the subject of a uniform Ritual in our jurisdiction, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that we recognize in its fulness the propriety and importance of such a regulation, and would most cheerfully aid in its accomplishment could we believe in its expediency; but, in view of our limited membership, the vast territory comprised within our State, the already large and increasing expenditures to which we are subject, together with the universal depression which attains in all business enterprises, it seems to us that the undertaking at this particular time is hazardous. We, therefore, recommend that action thereon be postponed until our next Annual Convocation.”

R. E. Comp. Samuel W. Clubbuck, was received and acknowledged as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The purchase of Jewels and Clothing for the Grand Chapter was deferred until some more convenient time.

The revision of the Constitution was also postponed.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. It is very well written, and exceedingly interesting. Canada for 1879 is noticed. We extract three paragraphs from this report and are glad to endorse them as perfectly correct:—

“When a Master Mason has been elected to receive the four Capital Degrees, and has received one or more degrees, he ought not to be stopped by a single voice: (he has once passed that ordeal.) Any objection should be investigated. If true, the Mark Mason should be suspended or expelled by the Chapter; if untrue, let him be advanced. One hundred years from now such a rule ought to be a landmark in simple justice.

“7. There is no constitutional regulation in regard to returning the fee of a candidate who has received part of the degrees in a Chapter, if objections are made to his advancing. It is a matter entirely within the province of a Chapter to settle for itself whether they shall return the fee, or any part of it. In justice to the candidate, the fee, or a part of it, should be returned, unless the objection can be removed. Which decision, in full accord with the law in Iowa, goes to show the absurdity of the rule which allows a candidate to be stopped after receiving one or more degrees, at the will of a single Companion. A half-made Mason is a nondescript for which we have no use in these mountains. If the candidate is unworthy we expel or suspend him. No eunuchs for us.

“8. In balloting for officers, blanks should not be counted as votes. There are good arguments on both sides of the question, but we are inclined to differ with the Grand High Priest. The usual law is, that a majority of the votes cast is necessary to an election. It seems to us that the plain intention of such a law is that an elected officer shall be the choice of a majority of the members voting. Suppose now ten members vote, nine members voting blanks, and one for John Smith. Can it be justly said that under the law he is elected? By the decision above quoted, John is unanimously elected, for there was but one actual vote cast, and he received all there was of that.”

M. E. Comp. Frank Bell (Reno), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John D. Hammond (Carson), Grand Secretary.

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

The sixty-second Annual Convocation was held at Concord, May 18th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. George W. Currier, G. H. P.

The Address and Proceedings are very brief, and there is no Report on Correspondence.

Among the Grand Representatives, we notice R. E. Comp. Alpheus W. Baker, from Canada, and R. E. Comp. David McLellan, to Canada.

Companion Nathaniel W. Cumer, for the special Committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation, to take into consideration the receipts and expenditures of the Grand Chapter, reported that in consideration of the improved condition of business, and the apparent prosperity of Masonry in the jurisdiction, the Committee were of the opinion that it was not necessary to take any action at this time. The report was accepted and the Committee discharged from further service.

M. E. Comp. Albert S. Wait (Newport), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George P. Cleaves (Concord), Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Trenton, September 8th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. James H. Durand, G. H. P.

From the Reports of the Grand Officers, we learn that the Craft, in general, is in a prosperous condition, and that peace and harmony prevail.

Comp. Charles Bechtel, on behalf of St. John's Chapter, No. 4, presented to the Grand Chapter a set of resolutions, elegantly embossed and framed, being a memorial of the late beloved and lamented Comp. Thomas J. Corson. The Grand High Priest accepted the memorial, which was read, ordered to be incorporated in the proceedings, and suitable acknowledgments transmitted to St. John's Chapter.

The Committee on the doings of the Grand Officers reported that the Address of the Grand High Priest, and the

Reports of the Subordinate Officers evince a faithful devotion to the best interests of the Royal Craft, and prove that nothing has been left undone to secure the welfare of each and every Subordinate Chapter.

It was resolved that the modifications of the Ritual, as adopted by the General Grand Chapter, be promulgated by the Council, and adopted by all the Subordinate Chapters.

The Grand Secretary Reports on Correspondence, and reviews most of the Grand Chapters for two and three years. Canada for the years 1878, 1879 and 1880 receives due notice.

M. E. Comp. Charles Bechtel (Trenton), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. George B. Edwards (Jersey City), Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The eighty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Albany, February 1st, 1881.

M. E. Comp. William T. Woodruff, G. H. P.

The address of the High Priest is well worthy of its accomplished and eloquent author. He is equally at home in discussing the dry details of Masonic Jurisprudence, and expatiating upon the beauty and consistency of the great fundamental truths of the Craft.

Among his official acts, we find he sought to secure an interchange of representatives with all the Grand Chapters not already in that fraternal relation. The following is of interest to us:—

“On November 26th 1880, M. E. Comp. John S. Bowen, of Brooklyn, called upon me, and presented the credentials of his appointment to be the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada near the Grand Chapter of New York—the said appointment having been made Oct. 26th, 1880, by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Grand Z. of the

Royal Arch Masons of Canada. I approved the credentials, and accredited Comp. Bowen as the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada."

On the condition of the Treasury, he says:—

"The Grand Treasurer has reported to me that the expenses of the Grand Chapter for the past year have been in excess of the receipts, and that the deficiency of moneys in his hands, with which to liquidate the liabilities of this Grand Chapter, amounts to between five hundred and six hundred dollars. As the Grand Chapter cannot increase its income without an amendment to the Constitution, and as the Chapters of the State are already taxed as largely as can be borne without distress, I earnestly recommend that the Finance Committee be requested to suggest such reductions in the appropriations as may seem wise and just. And I also recommend that the Grand Chapter itself so arrange its business as to accomplish a saving of one day of the time usually required to transact its business. A saving of one day of the session will result in a saving of over one thousand dollars of our per diem expenditures. The holding of evening sessions will, in my opinion, enable the Grand Chapter to close up its business on Wednesday evening."

His decisions are of more than usual interest. From them we make the following extracts:—

"Can the High Priest, with two members of his Chapter and six visiting Companions, receive petitions, ballot for candidates, and transact the business of the Chapter in general?"

"I decided this question in the negative; and further decided that while the High Priest, the King, or the Scribe, and eight visiting Companions may open a Chapter and confer degrees, it requires the presence of nine members of the Chapter to transact any other business. Since this decision was rendered, the General Grand Chapter of the United States has incorporated in its Constitution the following: 'Section 44. For all purposes except opening and closing a Chapter and conferring degrees, nine members of the Chapter are necessary to constitute a quorum.'

"4. On March 3rd, 1880, M. E. Comp. John L. Piper, High Priest of Zerubabel Chapter, No. 147, made enquiry of me whether or not an unaffiliated Master Mason was eligible to the degrees of the Chapter.

"My decision was as follows: 'That by Section 53 of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, none but Master Masons in good standing are eligible to the degrees of the Chapter, and as the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York imposes certain penalties and disabilities for unaffiliation, I am compelled to decide that an unaffiliated Master Mason is not a Master Mason in good standing, and is consequently not eligible to the Chapter degrees until he shall acquire membership in some Lodge of Master Masons. The *status* of Master Masons is fixed by the regulations of the Grand Lodge; and the Grand Chapter is in duty bound to recognize and give force and effect to such regulations.'

* * * * *

"Does Section 39, Article 2, of the new Constitution, suspend a Companion from his Chapter because he is stricken from the roll of his Lodge for non-payment of dues?"

"I decided that the standing of a Companion in his Chapter is not impaired by reason of his having been stricken from the roll of, or by having been unaffiliated by, his Lodge for non-payment of dues; and I further decided, in the same connection, that a Companion suspended by his Lodge for non-payment of dues, or for any other cause, is necessarily suspended from the rights and privileges of his Chapter so long as the suspension continues. In the State of New York the penalty for non-payment of Lodge dues is unaffiliation; in some other States the penalty is suspension. Hence the apparent difference."

"My opinion being that a Chapter could not entertain charges against an expelled Master Mason, I decided as follows: That a Master Mason expelled by his Lodge is, by such action, also expelled from his Chapter, and is thereby completely deprived of all his rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason without further action by the Chapter; and when the Chapter shall have received official information of such expulsion, the High Priest should direct the Secretary to make a record in the minutes of the Chapter that the Companion was expelled, the time when, and by whom. No other action by the Chapter need be taken.

"A subsequent restoration of the brother to the rights and privileges of Masonry by his Lodge, or by the Grand Lodge, will not restore him to the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. Expulsion carries with it Masonic death, and a restoration from expulsion involves the re-creation of that which had been absolutely destroyed, and neither a Lodge nor a Grand Lodge can create or re-create a Royal Arch Mason.

"In order to recover his Chapter privileges, favorable action by the Chapter will be required: firstly, by a majority vote to re-create or restore, and secondly, by a unanimous vote to re-affiliate."

"Brother A. is elected to receive the degrees in Bath Chapter, and presents himself to receive the Mark degree; B., who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, objects to Brother A. receiving the degree. Question: Is the High Priest bound to recognize the objection of Companion B., and delay the advancement of the candidate?"

"I decided that a Companion in a state of suspension for non-payment of dues has not only no right to object to, or to demand, a ballot upon the advancement of a candidate who has been duly elected, but he has also no right to be present in a Chapter while such suspension continues.

"I also decided, in the same connection, that a simple objection without a demand for a ballot will not arrest the progress of a candidate who has been duly elected, unless the presiding High Priest shall so direct; and he may, in his discretion, delay the advancement of a candidate without either an objection or a demand for a ballot."

* * * * *

"Can an application for the Chapter degrees be received, and a committee appointed, or any action taken on the application, unless the Chapter is open on the Royal Arch degree?"

"My decision on this question was, that a petition for the degrees of the Chapter cannot be received, a committee appointed, or any other action taken thereon, except at a stated Convocation of the Chapter, and then only in the presence of nine members of the Chapter at labor in the Royal Arch degree; and this carries with it a further declaration that a petition for the degrees cannot be received at a Special Convocation, although the object of the call may have been stated in the summons for such Convocation."

* * * * *

"What is the status of a Royal Arch Mason, a member of a Chapter in New York, who is a member of a Lodge in Connecticut, in view of the edict of the Grand Lodge of New York, forbidding Masonic intercourse with Masons hailing under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut."

"This question gave me more embarrassment than any other that I have been asked to pass upon; but after a careful examination of all the considerations involved, I decided that a member of a Chapter in New York, who is also a member of a Chapter in Connecticut, should be denied admission to the Convocations of his Chapter so long as the Grand Lodge edict of non-intercourse shall continue in force, and the Companion continue to hold his membership in the Connecticut Lodge."

* * * * *

"On July 12th, 1880, charges of unmasonic conduct were preferred to me by an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason, against a member of a Chapter in the city of New York. I refused to entertain the charges, and in dismissing them I decided: That an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason has no standing which will entitle him to prefer charges of unmasonic conduct against any Royal Arch Mason, and that the Grand High Priest has no constitutional right to appoint a commission to hear, try, and determine charges preferred by a Companion who is not in full membership in some Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

* * * * *

"That an unaffiliated Royal Arch Mason might act as counsel and defend a Companion against whom charges of unmasonic conduct were pending. The only requirement of the Code of Procedure being that such counsel shall be a Mason."

The views of Comp. Woodruff on the question of non-affiliation are admirably expressed, and deserve our closest attention:—

"I now take occasion to suggest for your consideration a few thoughts which occurred to me while considering the matter embraced in decision number four, on the subject of the unaffiliation of Master Masons in their Lodges, and of the proper standing of all such who are members of Chapters in this jurisdiction.

"A brother who has ascended the grades of the York Rite of Masonry owes an allegiance primarily to the symbolic Lodge and to the Grand Lodge; secondarily to the Royal Arch Chapter and to its governing body; and lastly to the Commandery and the Grand Commandery;

and the Grand Chapter is in duty bound to recognize the status of every Master Mason as fixed by his Grand Lodge. And if the penalty provided in the Constitution of symbolic Masonry for the non-payment of annual dues to the subordinate Lodge be suspension, the effect of such suspension must be recognized by the Royal Arch Chapter, and a Companion so suspended must lose all his rights and privileges as a Royal Arch Mason, during the term of such suspension. There can be no deviation from this rule, so long as Royal Arch Masons admit the binding force of their covenants as Master Masons. If the penalty, as provided by the Grand Lodge Constitutions, for non-payment of dues be unaffiliation, and the same Constitutions fix certain disabilities for non-affiliation, all such regulations should be respected in their full force and effect by all Royal Arch Chapters, and more especially by Grand Chapters.

"It therefore follows that, as the Grand Lodge of New York by its Constitution, as a penalty for non-affiliation for one year or more, forbids a brother thus unaffiliated to visit a Lodge or to join in Masonic processions, the Grand Chapter of New York cannot, in my opinion, too quickly declare by edict or by regulation, that the disability thus imposed by the Grand Lodge must attach to Royal Arch Masons in their Chapters who occupy the status of unaffiliation in a symbolic Lodge for one year or more, and they should not be permitted to visit their own or any other Chapter while their status so continues. More especially should this be the rule to apply to those who neglected or refused to discharge the obligations due to their Lodges, and have been unaffiliated as a penalty therefor.

"The government of Masons of the York Rite in the jurisdiction of New York, in all the grades, should be harmonious among the governing bodies, and the Grand Chapter of New York ought not to expect that the Grand Commandery shall recognize the status of Royal Arch Masons as fixed by the Grand Chapter, unless the Grand Chapter shall itself recognize the status of Master Masons as fixed by the Grand Lodge.

"It is well known that there are many Masons in the jurisdiction of New York who have used the Lodges and Chapters as stepping-stones, to enable them to ascend the Masonic edifice, secure the orders of Knighthood, and enroll themselves in the ranks of Commanderies of Knights Templar, many of whom are not now members of either Lodge or Chapter, and some of whom have been unaffiliated in their Lodges, and suspended in their Chapters for non-payment of dues. This state of things is a dark blot upon the fair fame of Masonry in the Empire State, and should be terminated as soon as possible, and the governing bodies should see to it that by proper regulations governing the whole subject, the future will show a radical correction of the evil.

"This Grand Chapter should do all that lies within its power and authority, consistently with Masonic duty, to exalt the good name and financial prosperity of the Grand Lodge of New York, and in like manner the Grand Commandery of New York should in obedience to the precepts of Masonic comity and justice, be willing to so construe its law as to fully recognize the status of Royal Arch Masons as fixed by this Grand Chapter, and thereby in a large degree contribute to the prosperity of the Grand Chapter of New York, and at the same time assist in bringing about a state of harmonious co-operation among the governing bodies of our beloved Rite, in the largest Masonic jurisdiction on this continent."

There are now 15,276 affiliated Royal Arch Masons in the State.

The Grand Chapter voted to reduce the salary of the Grand Secretary from \$2,000 to \$1,200, and that of the Grand Treasurer from \$500 to \$100, and to close the session on the second day.

A new committee on the history of Royal Arch Masonry in New York was appointed, consisting of Comps. Cassidy, Van Vliet, Morrison, Levey, and the Grand Secretary.

One new Chapter received a Warrant.

There were no appeals or grievances, a notable circumstance in so large a jurisdiction.

The Code of Procedure was amended, so that in all trials the counsel employed must be Royal Arch Masons.

It was also decided that a Representative of another Grand Chapter must be an affiliated member of some Chapter in the jurisdiction of New York.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. Darius A. Ogden, and it is, as usual, full of interest and information. He reviews our proceedings for 1880.

On the temporary absence of the Chapter Warrant, we find the following in his notice of the District of Columbia, and we take pleasure in fully endorsing all that is said with reference to Comp. Simons:—

“Not having read the article referred to, we cannot speak from actual knowledge. Yet from our acquaintance with Comp. Simons, and our faith in his wisdom and good sense, we venture to say that he has neither written nor published anything in any way reflecting upon or derogatory to Masonry, the principles upon which it is founded, or that in any way can be construed into a reflection upon it, or that intimates that it will change in any essential particular in the future so as to lose its identity or its principles. Comp. John W. Simons is a philosopher, a profound thinker, and a careful student of men and history; and it is not strange that looking thoughtfully into the future

as he studies the past and the present, he may see a liability to change, to improvement: indeed, he may see such changes and improvements to be desirable, as bringing into greater play and bolder relief the great aims, objects and principles which lie back of signs, symbols and other insignia which pertain to, if they do not encumber, Masonry, and mystify, bewilder and mislead its votaries.

"Take the matter in question: doubtless it has been held, and pertinaciously, too, by thousands of the best and wisest, that a Lodge or a Chapter could not be opened without the actual presence of the Warrant in the room; and, after all, is there any valid reason for this? The Warrant safely in the custody of the proper officer, if in his office, or safe at his home, gives just as full authority for the opening of the Chapter, and as much validity to its work as if in the Chapter room. If it have existence, and is in the custody of the proper officer, it is in full force, and no one can gainsay or call in question its power. Section 51, of the amended Constitution of this jurisdiction, says, 'The High Priest shall preside at the several Convocations of the Chapter; but, in case of his absence, the King or Scribe only shall, in order of rank, succeed him, provided such King or Scribe shall have lawful custody of the Warrant.' This covers the point exactly. 'Lawful custody' does not mean that the officer must always carry it about his person; but the language must be construed in its ordinary, common-sense meaning. A High Priest, or King, or Scribe, as the case may be, need not ride, on a cold night, five miles to get the Warrant of his Chapter before he can open and work it, if he knows that it is safe, in his custody and under his control at his house or elsewhere. If the Constitution of the Grand Chapter read 'that the Warrant must be in the room before the Chapter can be opened, and there kept all the time while work is being done,' then the language, being specific, must be literally obeyed—otherwise, common-sense and ordinary interpretation should govern. Comp. Simons might very likely chase away some of the shadows which surround Masonry, but, depend upon it, he will never give up the substance or counsel a disregard of a single essential principle or usage connected with it."

Under "Pennsylvania," he says:—

"Pennsylvania is among the oldest of the Grand Chapters. She embraces and has cherished some of the best minds of the State and nation; and why she should so tenaciously adhere to her isolation and boasted independence is a mystery, as well as a matter of regret, to us. Good to herself and to the Craft elsewhere would follow the union of the Keystone State with those who own allegiance to the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Independence is important and desirable, but all of it that is necessary and manly may be retained with the advantage and pleasure of union. With the Keystone State, together with the State which boasts of being the 'Mother of Presidents,' and Texas, once the 'Lone Star State,' but which is now almost an empire, united in friendship and unity with many other great States—we say, with these united in the strong but gentle and kindly bonds of fraternity, without power to absorb or do harm, but with purpose, will and authority to harmonize and protect, we think would be beneficial to all; but, desirable as this might be, we fear 'the wish is father to the thought.' However, in or out of

the union, we shall always respect the Craft and hail as such the Companions of all these States."

Under " West Virginia :"

" The point of this decision is, that a non-affiliated Master Mason is not, and for the reason simply that he is non-affiliated, in 'good standing.' This, to our mind, is radically erroneous. Dismission from a Lodge is everywhere held to be a Masonic right, if he who desires it pays his dues and has no charges against him. A Chapter, by its laws, may make actual membership in a Lodge, and many do this, a qualification for receiving the degrees, and in such cases the fact of membership will be stated in the application and the Lodge named; but where there is no law or rule requiring actual membership the non-affiliate stands equally a Mason in good standing as if he belonged to a Lodge. A Grand Lodge, in its Constitution, might, perhaps, declare that a non-affiliated Mason was to be regarded as not in good standing, or, that after dismission and without affiliating, by becoming a member of some Lodge within six months, he should be held as not in good standing; and, in either of these events, the non-affiliate might not be eligible to membership in a Chapter; yet there is grave doubt about even this. If membership in a Lodge be a voluntary act, and if it depend upon the will and inclination of the member, and if, as a result and consequence of this free agency, the member may at any time dimit, and thus carry with him into the world and to his brethren the certificate of his good standing as a Master Mason, what right has any Masonic body, without departing from the free and voluntary principle, to declare that such a Mason, thus with his dismission certificate affirming his good standing, is not in good standing? Would it not be an absurdity, not to say a wrong, and so wrong as to be void? The matter was referred to the Jurisprudence Committee, and they were wiser than the Grand High Priest."

M. E. Comp. Wm. T. Woodruff (402 W. 22nd Street, New York), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox (Buffalo), Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The thirty-second Annual Convocation was held at Wilson, June 1st, 1880.

M. E. Comp. C. M. Van Orsdell, G. H. P.

On the subject of delinquent Chapters, Comp. Van Orsdell says:—

" Companions, we have labored and legislated so often and liberally in behalf of the Chapters to assist them to shake off their lethargy

and manifest their fidelity to the Order, and to their obligations and pledges, that, in my humble opinion, patience ceases to be a virtue.

"In their present condition they are hopelessly dead, and the officers who allowed them to expire under their management are hopelessly and utterly unable to revive them.

"Then, Companions, let us cut them off as so many broken and disabled masts hanging over the sides of our glorious old ship to retard her progress; by so doing, we shall give others, and younger and more zealous Masons a chance to take hold and build up new Chapters and revive Capitular Masonry in those places where they have been dead so long. Let us try the experiment, and if we should gain but one new Chapter, it will be a success and we will be repaid for our efforts; but instead of one, I believe that new Chapters will be formed in every place, for I feel convinced that, with the advance of our country's returning prosperity, which is now acknowledged everywhere, that Masonry is bound to advance, revive and prosper again.

"She has not been dead, but sleepeth; and I for one feel that the time of her awakening draweth nigh.

" 'So mote it be.' "

"I am happy to be able to inform you that, so far as I can learn, peace and brotherly love reign supreme in every Chapter throughout this Grand Jurisdiction."

He decided that a Resolution to surrender the Warrant of a Chapter should be offered at a regular meeting, and that each member should be furnished with a copy of such Resolution, and be notified to appear at the next regular meeting, to take final action in regard to the matter.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted, to the effect that

"No Companion shall be eligible to the office of M. E. Grand High Priest, unless he shall have filled by election and installation that of High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter."

Comp. James Southgate moved the appointment of a Committee of three to consider the best means of promoting Capitular Masonry, in connection with the causes which have operated against its advancement in this Jurisdiction. The motion prevailed, and Comps. Southgate, Blount and Rogers were named as such Committee. The Report of this Committee was adopted by the Grand Chapter, and we give it in full, as it contains lessons for all of us:—

"Your Committee, to whom has been assigned the task of investi-

gating the causes of the decay of Capitular Masonry in North Carolina, have the honor to submit the following report:—

"It is believed that the causes of this lamentable decline are merely temporary and superficial, and that wise and judicious legislation on the part of the Grand Chapter now assembled, will entirely, or in great part, remove them and restore the prosperity to which we have so long been strangers and for which we so earnestly sigh. Prominent among the causes which have militated against our Order, your Committee desire to enumerate the following:

"1st. The rapid and phenomenal growth of ephemeral secret societies based upon the grand principles, which Masonry alone has practised and enunciated for centuries, and offering to their votaries rewards of various kinds for their adhesion—a practice alike abhorrent to the genius of Masonry and the exercise of true charity.

"2nd. The ignorance of Subordinate Chapters and Chapter Masons generally throughout the State, of the work, the ritual and the obligations of the Capitular Degrees.

"3rd. The want of system and energy on the part of the Secretaries of Subordinate Chapters, in collecting dues and keeping alive the organizations of the Chapters to which they belong.

"4th. The absence at this time of what, in lieu of a better term, may be called the 'tidal wave' of Masonry, which, according to the experience of the oldest Masons, occurs periodically.

"Having diagnosed the disease, we venture to suggest the following remedies:

"1st. Keep our Chapters alive, if possible, maintain the dignity of our Order, avoid all connection with the inflated ideas of the present age, and stand firm upon our landmarks and our record of a thousand generations.

"2nd. Divide the jurisdiction into four sub-divisions, each under the charge of one of the principal officers of the Grand Chapter, and make it his duty to visit each Chapter, revive dormant Chapters, and make them proficient in the work under such provisions and conditions as the Grand Chapter may prescribe.

"3rd. Keep ourselves as Royal Arch Masons 'unspotted from the world' and wait, like our brethren of old, for the time of the rebuilding of the temple draweth nigh.

"In conclusion, we offer the following resolution:

"*Resolved*,—That it shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest to divide this jurisdiction into four sections, each of which shall be under the control of the Grand High Priest, the Deputy Grand High Priest, the Grand King and Grand Scribe respectively, and it shall be their duty to use their utmost efforts to place every Chapter in their respective sections, whether dormant or otherwise, in good and active working order, on such arrangements and conditions as may be agreed upon between them and the respective Chapters."

Five Charters were revoked.

The funds of the Grand Chapter were insufficient to meet the cost of publishing the Report on Correspondence by Comp. James Southgate.

The first part of a reprint of the Proceedings is given, embracing from 1822 to 1827. These old minutes are very interesting.

M. E. Comp. C. M. Van Orsdell (Wilmington), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. D. W. Bain (Raleigh), Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The eleventh Annual Convocation was held at Halifax, June 1st, 1880.

R. E. Comp. Geo. T. Smithers, Grand King, presiding.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. William Taylor, was absent through sickness. His address was read, from which we learn that he has been careful to have all the Chapters on the roll visited or otherwise examined. He suggests the advisability of re-opening the Foreign Correspondence Reports.

He says that Royal Union Chapter, No. 1, is probably the oldest Chapter on this continent. It is now entering its hundredth year, and is in a prosperous condition.

The following resolution was adopted:—

“That this Grand Chapter considers it has no control in the matter of Masonic processions, unless conducted under Royal Arch Warrant, and that the Grand Secretary communicate the same to Shannon Chapter.”

In the Report on the Address, we find the following:—

“It is most satisfactory to find from the report of the M. E. G. H. P. that the various Chapters under his jurisdiction are fairly prosperous, notwithstanding the general depression that has prevailed, and we earnestly hope that such prosperity will increase.

“Your Committee quite coincide with the views of the M. E. G. H. P. upon the advisability of re-opening our Foreign Correspondence Reports, as a source of valuable information to the Companions of the various Chapters in the jurisdiction.”

R. E. Comp. L. F. Darling was received and welcomed as the Representative from Canada.

The Grand High Priest was authorized to appoint a Grand Superintendent for Newfoundland, with such powers as may be considered requisite.

Comp. S. R. Sircom, P. G. H. P., was made an honorary member of the Grand Chapter. He has removed from the jurisdiction.

It was considered that there was no necessity for raising the dues payable to the Grand Chapter.

The receipt of our Proceedings for 1880 is acknowledged, and an intimation is given that the Report on Correspondence is to be resumed this year.

M. E. Comp. Lorenzo F. Darling (Halifax,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James Gossip (Halifax,) Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The sixty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Chillicothe, October 14th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. James B. Hovey, G. H. P.

He received no applications for new Chapters. He recommends that the Grand Chapter should adopt some system of visitation, "which would prove of great benefit and encouragement to many weak and struggling Chapters." On decisions, he says:—

"In this connection I wish to say that three-fourths of the questions which have been propounded to me have been answered in the laws, rules, and decisions published in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, and in many cases, where I referred to them for answer, I received letters in return asking me where these proceedings could be obtained. I would recommend that there be made a codification of all decisions, rules and regulations of the Grand Chapter; also the new Constitution adopted by the G. G. Chapter at its last session, and such other matters as would give all the information needed, and to be published in pamphlet form, and a copy of same should be preserved by every Chapter."

On this subject the following report was adopted:—

“Your committee also report a recommendation that the Constitution, By-laws, Rules, and Decisions of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, the Constitution, By-laws, Rules, and Decisions of this Grand Chapter, together with such forms as are necessary to the guidance of Subordinate Chapters, be printed with the proceedings of this Grand Chapter under the direction of the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary.”

On the proposition to have a Chapter Burial Service, the special committee presented a very sensible report, which was adopted, as follows:

“Your committee have freely considered the proposition to provide a burial service for the use of the Subordinate Chapters of the State, and report as follows:

“That, in the opinion of your committee, a separate service for the Royal Arch Chapters of the State is not only unnecessary, but the Grand Body would make a mistake if such a proposition should be adopted by it; we therefore recommend that the whole subject be indefinitely postponed.”

The select committee on Visitation, reported as follows:—

“The undersigned, to whom was referred so much of the address of the Grand High Priest as relates to the visitation of Subordinate Chapters, respectfully report that, in our judgment, the power of visitation is one of the prerogatives of the Grand High Priest, and we respectfully recommend that he exercise that prerogative, liberally awarding to his own discretion, and that he do not hesitate to arrest or suspend the charter of any Chapter which he may find is failing for any reason to promote the welfare of the Order.”

Comp. Thomas J. Melish reviews forty-one Grand Chapters, including Canada for 1880. He approves of our new plan of holding all the Grand Bodies at the same place, and in the same week. So far, it has proved a very successful arrangement with us. The attendance is better, the business is transacted fully as well, and more expeditiously, and there is a great saving of time and expense to all who belong to more than one of the Grand Bodies.

He quotes the poetry from the address of Comp. Spry, and adds:—

“As we never indulge in such a luxury as poetry ourselves, we are

proud to garnish our report with samples exported from abroad. But in spite of our constitutional modesty, we must say we believe we could beat this effusion."

We noticed, last year, that before the Grand Chapter was opened, it was thought necessary to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, in order to ascertain if a Constitutional number of Chapters were represented. We cannot see the necessity of this operation. We open our Grand Chapter without any such formality, the Grand Z., of course, being satisfied that a sufficient number is present. We would ask Comp. Melish, as he has doubtless been asked before, what Chapter is it that they open? What is its number? And who are its officers? And whence did it derive its charter? It seems nonsensical to us to say that the Grand Chapter cannot open itself directly, without calling to its aid a subordinate body. We are aware that in Ohio it is done because it is their custom, but if a custom is obviously absurd, it is the part of wisdom to abolish it.

Under "California," he says:—

"He does not apprehend perfectly our way of dealing with members suspended for N. P. D. It is as follows: if a brother does not pay his dues he is declared suspended by the presiding officer; if he does not pay them within a reasonable time he is cited to trial for unmasonic conduct for N. P. D. If he does not appear, or give satisfaction, he may be expelled at the pleasure of the Chapter."

Under "Illinois:"

"We don't agree with Comp. Gurney. We believe that Masons ought to be as business-like as railroad companies, or any other corporations that take bonds to secure themselves in case of default, and we believe that the bondsmen should not be Masons, so that no considerations of fraternal sympathy should come in. In our case, the trouble was not with the sticky fingers of the late Treasurer by any means, but business misfortune. He used Masonic funds entrusted to him in his business, and made a failure, carrying our funds down into the gulf of bankruptcy with him. His serious fault was in allowing himself to be re-elected when he knew he was hopelessly involved; but then, like other men, the poor fellow thought he could work out sometime. But this was pre-eminently a case in which non-Masonic bondsmen might have saved our Ohio Grand Bodies the loss of thousands of dollars."

In reply to Comp. Pierson, of Minnesota:—

"Now, Azariah, let us talk this over a little coolly. We meant to say that the Council Degrees of the (so-called) York Rite are totally unlike the Council Degrees—that is, the fifteenth and sixteenth grades, Knights of the East and West, and Prince of Jerusalem—of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Anybody who ever saw the two worked would know that. The York Council Degrees belong historically to the Solomonean temple; the Scottish grades to the time of the Babylonish captivity.

"Comp. Pierson says the York Rite has only three degrees. We don't know on what basis he enumerates. We suppose the old English Masonry—which we call 'the York Rite' to distinguish it from the Continental and Scottish Rite,—originally had only one degree—simple initiation. Then it became enlarged to two, the E. A. and the M. M.; next the F. C. was introduced, and the essential features of the Royal Arch were introduced under the name of the 'Master's Part.' But during the last century the York Rite—old English Masonry—blossomed out into the Chapter, and the Templar Degrees. Finally, in this country, the Council Degrees were added to the system, or the series of the old York Rite.

"Comp. Pierson is really using the word Council in a sense different from that in which we used it. He insists, and he may be very right here, that our Council Degrees of the York system were borrowed from certain side degrees which were in the custody of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite."

Under "Texas:"

"During the years he had been worried somewhat for permission to have substitutes in conferring the R. A. degree. He had reluctantly granted the privilege in some cases, and refused it in others. [In Ohio we may have two subs. whenever we please, and we are happy. What is the use of embarrassing country Chapters in their work, by requiring candidates to wait sometimes a year for a full team? As a High Priest of a Subordinate Chapter, we would rather work the Royal Arch three times a year with one candidate and two subs. than once a year with three candidates. The life and interest of all Masonic bodies depend greatly upon their work. We would therefore abolish all restriction upon the matter.—OHIO REP.]

On the negro question, he makes the following distinction between "clandestine" and "irregular:"

"We are accustomed to make a distinction between 'clandestine' and 'irregular.' A clandestine Lodge is one which is composed of spurious, suspended or expelled Masons, working without a charter; an 'irregular' Lodge is one composed of Masons working under a charter, but not recognized by the supreme authority of the jurisdiction. So we classify the colored Masons as irregular, although we understand their work has been regularly handed down to them from English sources, and they are recognized as Masons by a large number of Grand Lodges of the world. Certainly a body of Masons, in possession of the work, and having twenty-six Grand Lodges in the

United States, and recognized by half the Masonic world, can hardly be classified as a 'clandestine' affair; for clandestine, by the very meaning of the word, signifies, according to Webster, 'withdrawn from public notice for an evil purpose; hidden; private.' But the colored Masons are irregular and illegal, because not here recognized by regular Masonic authority."

We also copy his excellent conclusion:—

"We had duly ended our labors, and sent the last roll of copy to the printers, when we were informed by them that by some mishap it had not come to hand. We therefore have to reproduce our 'Conclusion.' We leave our readers to imagine that our previous effort (which is doubtless now reposing in the catacombs of the dead letter department of the general post-office), was very much more original, sprightly and every way admirable than this second attempt (which is like a second skimming of milk for cream), can possibly be.

"Our survey of the forty Grand Chapters with which our Grand Chapter of Ohio is in fraternal relations, shows that the fraternity on this continent is all at peace, and that no broils disturb that great family which dwells together in unity. The only questions which awaken diversity of opinion at present are :

"1. The relation of Companions to the Chapter who have been suspended for non-payment of dues in the Lodge. Many of our Grand Chapters allow such to keep their standing in the Chapter; while Ohio and many other Grand Chapters treat suspension and expulsion in the Lodge as terminating the whole Masonic life and career of the suspendee or expelled (!) until the sentence is reversed.

"2. The question of consolidation of Chapter and Council has been very variously treated in different jurisdictions. Several Grand Chapters and Councils have become consolidated, or rather the Grand Councils have committed *hari kari* by dying for the good of the cause, as they supposed, while the Grand Chapters minister upon their effects. But other jurisdictions, among them notably Ohio, New York and Maine, have not only voted with great unanimity to continue the Council organization, as a separate institution, but to enlarge, strengthen, and consolidate it by the formation of a General Grand Council, corresponding to the General Grand Chapter. At the date of this writing every Grand Council which has held its Annual Convocation has voted to form such a body. Seven have thus ratified it, and only two more are needed to give life and permanence to the contemplated organization. We may therefore expect that hereafter this National Body will be among the Masonic powers of the continent, and Cryptic Masonry will be strengthened and perpetuated.

"The aggregate number of Royal Arch Masons in the United States has continued to decline; but the hard times have passed away, commercial prosperity reigns everywhere, and this department of Masonry may expect soon to grow to at least the proportions it had before the panic of 1873. There is light all around the horizon, and the Sons of Light may lift up their heads, and hail the sun rising."

M: E. Comp. James B. Hovey (Marietta), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James Nesbitt (Troy), Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the several Quarterly Communications, a large amount of local and private buisness was transacted.

The death is announced of Comp. Joseph. R. Chandler, Past Grand Master, and Past Grand High Priest. He died July 10th, 1880, aged 88. He was at one time Minister to Rome, and the following passages of his history will be found interesting:—

“M. E. Companion Chandler was self-educated, and from humble life raised himself to the front rank as a journalist; he was charitable and humane, and foremost in all public philanthropic measures; as a Mason, he was one of our ablest orators, a skilful ritualist, a wise jurist, and a staunch warrior during the anti-Masonic excitement. To use his own words, he never lost an opportunity to set forth the excellencies of the fraternity, the persecutions to which the Craft had been exposed, and with emphasis pointed to the duty of forbearance (even under the severest persecutions) towards the enemies of Masonry, and encouraged his Companions to a continuance in that course of virtue which had distinguished them thus far.

Such teachings he practised down to the day of his death.

For reasons which it is not necessary now to state, he, for a number of years past, has not met with us within the tyled Lodge; yet it is with gratification we know his thoughts were often with us, and that, at the time of his death, he was the oldest member and Past Master of Phoenix Lodge, No. 130, the oldest Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of Pennsylvania, the oldest Past Master of Columbia Mark Lodge, No. 91, the oldest Past High Priest of Harmony Chapter, and the oldest Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, holding his membership and being in good standing in all these Bodies at the time the Grand High Priest above summoned him hence to His presence.

“Having thus lived and died in Masonry, it is proper that this Grand Chapter

“*Resolved*, That the M. E. Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, being impressed with the eminent services rendered to Royal Arch Masonry by M. E. Comp. P. G. High Priest Joseph R. Chandler, having heard, with sincere sorrow, of his death, direct that a suitable record be made of the same on the minutes of this Grand Chapter.

“Comp. P. G. High Priest Perkins, in a few feeling words, moved the adoption of the resolution, when Comp. William J. Kelly, rising to second the motion, made the following remarks:—

“*M. E. Grand High Priest:*

“In arising to second the motion of P. G. High Priest Perkins, I do so with a sense of duty to our deceased P. G. High Priest Comp. Jos. R. Chandler, as well as to furnish to this Grand Chapter a leaf from history of the feelings and regard which our deceased Companion entertained for us after he had severed his active work with us.

During the year 1864, while I was Worshipful Master of Columbia Mark Lodge, No. 91, a resolution was adopted directing the appointment of a committee to procure appropriate regalia for all the Past Masters of that Lodge. Jos. R. Chandler was the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge, and while he had not attended the meetings of the Lodge, yet the record showed he was in good standing, and consequently entitled, under the resolution above referred to, to be presented, as the others, with his regalia. Under common report the natural inference would be that Companion Chandler, having joined the Roman Catholic Church, he would not wish to accept a testimonial from the Masonic Fraternity. Not wishing to embarrass him with such a tender regard, unless he would feel at full liberty to accept, I wrote him of the action of the Lodge, asking his views regarding it. He sent a special messenger to invite me to his house, welcoming me with great cordiality and infinite grace, apologized for troubling me to call on him, and at once named to me the high honor he considered the Lodge had done him by their remembrance of him, and assured me he would receive the regalia with pleasure and treasure it with pride. He also took occasion to assure me he was still a Mason in full communion with us, and was only prevented paying us an occasional visit by the serious affliction of his eyes. He took the opportunity of saying that we could all appreciate the fact that, as a gentleman, when he embraced a faith which discountenanced our Order, he could not pretend to take an active part with us as before he joined, yet there was no further obligation than example to prevent him, and that only his bad eyesight prevented an occasional visit. He regretted exceedingly his inability to come to the Mark Lodge to personally receive his present, but begged me to present to his Brethren his regrets.

"He stated to me that while Minister to Rome he had taken occasion to call the attention of His Holiness Pius IX. to the difference between the Masonic Order of the United States and what passed for such in the Roman States, under the name of Carbonari, and that he had every reason to believe he would have been successful in modifying the Pope's views, had not, unfortunately, a revolution broken out or been attempted, mainly through the effort of the latter society, which compelled him to desist for a time. Meantime he left the country, and thus was lost the opportunity of enlightening the Pope by one who, of all men, was so eminently qualified to inform him. Companion Chandler closed the interview by assuring me he was a Free Mason, expected to live his life through in full affiliation with our Fraternity, and when his time came to go hence, that his standing with us would be unimpaired. Brother P. G. High Priest Samuel C. Perkins was delegated to present the regalia to Brother Chandler, and I learn from him it was done. I desire to add one word in commendation of Companion P. G. High Priest Chas. E. Meyer's memoir. It is chaste; it is true; it is complete. I, therefore, again second the motion for its adoption."

It was decided that the removal of a Chapter from one room to another in the same building does not require the approval of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. John Thomson declined a re-election as Grand

Secretary, and a Special Committee of five was appointed to procure a testimonial for his long and faithful services.

The Annual Convocation was held at Philadelphia, Dec. 27th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. William C. Hamilton, G. H. P.

In his Address, he says:—

“I have marked with pleasure the infusion of new zeal in the working power of the Royal Arch Fraternity; there is a perceptible increase of Masonic knowledge, and a healthful disposition to be in accord with our ancient usages, customs, and landmarks. These gratifying results, I feel assured, must produce an abounding harvest of those noble qualities which should be distinguishing features of our Fraternity, and which are so essential to its well being.

“During the past Masonic year I have officially visited all the Chapters meeting in the Temple, besides a number in the surrounding districts, and I am pleased to report to you that, as a general rule, they are in a more prosperous condition than they were at the time of my previous report.

“Accompanied by the Grand Officers, I have also visited Media, Fernwood, West Chester, Altoona, Pittsburgh, Oil City and Erie. In each of the above mentioned places we were cordially received by the Companions, who were present in large numbers from the adjacent districts.

“In the evenings Grand Visitations in form were made and addresses delivered, after which the degrees were exemplified by the Grand Officers; this work received marked attention by the Companions, thus evincing a desire for Masonic knowledge that was truly gratifying. The D. D. Grand High Priests were present, and by their effort to gather the Companions from the surrounding districts, afforded us every opportunity for imparting instruction. The Grand Officers are under many obligations for courtesies extended to them while sojourning with the hospitable Companions. We felt, at the termination of these visitations, that good results must follow to the Royal Craft.”

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Charles H. Meyer, and notices Canada for 1880.

M. E. Comp. Hibbert P. John (Philadelphia), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer (Philadelphia), Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC.

The fourth Annual Convocation was held at Montreal, September 21st, 1880.

M. E. Comp. J. H. Graham, Grand Z.

From the very able Address of the Grand Z., we make the following extracts:—

“It is with great satisfaction that I have to report that peace, unity and harmony have continued to prevail throughout our jurisdiction; that an increased zeal has been manifested, and that an encouraging degree of well-grounded prosperity has been enjoyed.

“The resuscitation of Dorchester Chapter, Waterloo, and of St. Charles Chapter, Point St. Charles, are noteworthy events; and I sincerely hope that they may hereafter have a prosperous career. Several of the officers with whom I am personally acquainted, I know to be talented men and zealous Companions.

“Two new Chapters have recently been established by Dispensation—the Bedford Chapter, in the village of Bedford, and the Missisquoi Chapter, in the village of Mansonville. These are presided over by able and well-skilled officers, and I trust that they will, on examination, be found to have made such progress that Warrants of Constitution may be granted to them at the present Convocation of Grand Chapter. Detailed information concerning these four Chapters will, doubtless, be given in their reports by the R. E. the Grand Superintendents of the respective Districts of Montreal and of the Eastern Townships.

“All our relations to the sister Grand Chapters of the Dominion, and of the United States of America, from nearly all of whom we have received due recognition, and with most of whom we have fraternal correspondence, and have exchanged Grand Representatives, continue to be most harmonious and satisfactory. The volumes of Proceedings received from them are deeply interesting and instructive, and indicate that Capitular Masonry is fairly prosperous throughout the world.

“It will, I am sure, afford you very great pleasure to learn that the Grand Chapter of Quebec has been duly recognized in the most fraternal manner by the Most Excellent the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland. The recognition of our young Grand Chapter by that venerable Grand Body has personally given me great satisfaction, and I trust that circumstances may soon favor the interchange of Grand Representatives therewith.”

* * * * *

“A new departure has been taken by me since our last Annual Convocation, which I hope may meet your approval.

“District meetings of the officers and members of the several Chapters have been held in the cities of Quebec, Montreal and Sherbrooke. The result seems to have been to the very considerable advantage of Royal Arch Masonry in these several localities, and it appears to

many of the Companions that it would be well to hold such meetings annually throughout the several Districts within our Jurisdiction."

* * * * *

"Important esoteric and other books and manuscripts are in the possession of many members of our fraternity. What finally becomes of them? Would it not be well for these Brethren and Companions so to arrange as that these precious Masonic materials should, at or prior to their demise, be donated to the Grand Chapter?

"This suggestion may, I trust, be borne in mind, and it is to be hoped that in this way not a few precious legacies may come into the possession, and be carefully preserved in the archives, of this Grand Body.

"The question also sometimes arises how carefully the old records, and other valuable books and papers of constituent Chapters, are being preserved. Are they not sometimes lost, and could not some additional means be adopted for their greater security? Would it not be advisable that these old, and generally unused books, &c., say at the end of some given period of years, be also deposited in the archives of Grand Chapter, where, when necessary, they could be referred to, and where they might be kept in safety as valuable heir-looms which would be most highly prized by future generations of Craftsmen? I commend this matter to your serious consideration."

* * * * *

The Committee on the Address presented their report, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter, and contains the following:—

"The Committee heartily approve of the recommendations of the Grand Z. that the following eminent and distinguished Masons be constituted Honorary Members of this Grand Chapter: Hon. John F. Townshend, LL. D., of Dublin, Ireland, First Grand Principal of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland; Thomas Douglas Harington, Past First Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada; Col. W. J. Bury McLeod Moore, of Laprairie, Q., Past Second Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and congratulate Grand Chapter on the addition of such distinguished names to its register of members.

"The presentation of a report on Foreign Correspondence (which has been the result of the labors of V. E. Comp. Arthur Simpson, the Chairman of the Committee) will be satisfactory to Grand Chapter, and the committee recommend that the thanks of Grand Chapter be tendered to that V. E. Companion for his arduous labors in this very important work.

"The Committee approve of the following recommendations of the Grand Z., and urge the members of Grand Chapter to see that they are faithfully and promptly carried out.

"1. That district meetings of the Craft be held as often as may be found possible.

"2. That Grand Superintendents make it a part of their duty to see that each Chapter in their district has a book of marks properly and correctly kept, and that each Chapter has a Chapter seal.

"3. That it be made a regulation of Grand Chapter, that the annual proceedings of Grand Chapter be read in each Subordinate Chapter and preserved.

"4. That all valuable books and papers in possession of Subordinate Chapters or their members be carefully kept and preserved, and if deemed advisable be sent to the Grand Scribe E. for that purpose.

"5. That the property of Subordinate Chapters be insured from loss by fire.

"6. That the Committee on additions to the Constitution be continued, for the better settlement of the questions placed in their charge, as such may arise.

"7. That to secure uniformity in the work, a Committee on Ritual be appointed by the Grand Z.

"8. The Committee further recommend the remarks of Grand Z. in reference to public processions to the careful consideration of Grand Chapter."

The officers were duly elected, but there is no record of their installation.

The Report of Correspondence is by Comp. Arthur F. Simpson, and it contains a good notice of our Proceedings for 1880.

M. E. Comp. Isaac Henry Stearns (Montreal), Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. Angus Grant (Montreal), Grand Scribe E.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Sixty-ninth Annual Convocation was held at Charleston, February 10th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. W. G. Desaussure, G. H. P.

The Address opens as follows:—

"COMPANIONS;—When the Convocation of this Grand Chapter was closed a year ago, the hope was indulged that ere the re-assemblage, the rising of the Morning Star would be seen, and a report could be made of the promise of a brighter day. I am sorry to be unable, as yet, to bear you these good tidings. Not only in this jurisdiction, but in nearly every other of this our broad land, Capitular Masonry still languishes. Within a few months past, there has been an active revival in the business pursuits of the United States. The whirr of machinery is being more continuously heard, and a hum is arising from all branches of industry. Masonry is closely interwoven with the con-

dition of the communities. Masonry is Brotherhood in its broad signification, and must be depressed or buoyant, as the communities in which it exists are affected. When prosperity comes, there is reasonable ground for hope that we shall share in it."

He thinks that there is no organic law which would prevent the union of the Chapter and Council degrees.

The following appears in the Report of the Grand Secretary:—

"A communication was received from the Grand Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, in regard to appointing a Grand Representative of that Grand Body near our jurisdiction; and later, the credentials for Comp. J. M. Bratten, M. D., duly arrived and have been forwarded to him."

The Report of the Joint Committee of the Grand Council and the Grand Chapter, was presented and adopted, together with a plan of consolidation, and the formal transfer of the Council degrees to the Grand Chapter then took place.

Economy dictated the omission of the Report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. F. F. Gary (Cokesbury), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke (Charleston), Grand Secretary.

The seventieth Annual Convocation was held at Charleston, February 15th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. F. F. Gary, G. H. P.

In his Address, the Grand High Priest comments on the causes which at present impede the progress of Royal Arch Masonry, among which the rivalry of other secret societies is given. Their financial condition requires serious consideration. He directed that fifteen Chapters be stricken from the roll, for failure to make returns.

On the subject of the Council Degrees, Comp. Gary says that they must rescind their former action.

"The dissolution of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, and the action of this Grand Chapter assuming the supervision of the Cryptic Degrees, to be communicated by the officers of the Subordinate Chapters in councils, appendant to the Chapters, was contingent upon the permission of the General Grand Chapter to confer the degrees. I do not concur in the opinion, that the adoption of the above resolution leaves each Grand Chapter free to assume control of the Cryptic Degrees, or not, as they may think best. I believe the action of the General Grand Chapter is in effect to prohibit the conferring of these degrees by Chapters. I have arrived at this conclusion for the following reasons: first, the General Grand Chapter adopted a revised Constitution, recognizing only the four degrees of Capitular Masonry; and next, by the adoption of the resolution disclaiming all authority over the Cryptic Degrees. It will be the duty of this Grand Chapter, if they concur in opinion, to rectify its action at the last Convocation, and restore the custody of the Degrees of Royal and Select Masters to the Grand Council of South Carolina.

"Anticipating your action, I have directed the R. E. Gr. Secretary to restore to Companion Zimmerman Davis, Gr. Recorder, such archives as were turned over to this Grand Chapter."

His decisions were as follows:—

"1. A Chapter cannot call off from a regular Convocation, and call on a week hence to complete the business; such meeting would be an extra Convocation.

"2. A promissory note cannot be accepted in lieu of cash for Degrees.

"3. Q.—A Companion R. A. M. who has received his Royal Arch Degree in England, and still retains his membership there, upon coming to this country received the Mark and Most Excellent Master's Degree in New York, desires to have the degrees of Royal and Select Master conferred. Can he do so without becoming a member of this Chapter? Answer—No."

The Grand Chapter agreed with the views of the Grand High Priest, as to the Council Degrees, and the following action was had:—

"The Committee of the Grand Council, composed of Chapter Masons, then appeared, to ask for the restoration to the custody of the Grand Council, of the Cryptic Degrees.

"R. E. Companion Smyth, in the Chair, read the action of this Grand Body on the subject, and restored, in the name of the Grand Chapter, the custody of said Degrees to the Grand Council."

The Report of the Finance Committee was adopted. It

recommends that the Report on Foreign Correspondence be not printed. The conclusion is as follows:—

“The only plan proposed that appears feasible to your Committee, is for the Grand Secretary to be instructed to hand to the Officers and Delegates two certificates of per diem and mileage, numbered respectfully number one and number two. Number one for sixty per cent, and number two for forty per cent. of amount due them.

“That the Grand Treasurer shall be ordered to pay to each Officer and Delegate the Certificate numbered one, but not the certificate numbered two. This will give each member in cash sixty per cent. of the amount due him, and the other certificate number two, he can carry back to his Chapter, who will no doubt accept it from him as so much money, to be used by said Chapter in paying their dues to this Grand Chapter at the next annual Convocation. When some years ago this Grand Chapter was similarly embarrassed, this exact plan was adopted, and found to give relief, and every one of these certificates was subsequently paid in full.

“Out of the amount (\$605.59) appearing as cash on the books of the Grand Treasurer, your Committee find that \$155.72 is due for cash already actually expended, leaving only \$449.87 to be divided.

“It would not be just to our efficient Grand Secretary, whose salary has not been paid since 1878 that he alone should be unpaid, while others are paid in full. The plan suggested will, your Committee think, pay the Grand Secretary such an amount as he will accept as payment in full for arrears of salary due him for 1878 and 1879, and leave only the salary for 1880 unpaid.

“To prevent a similar embarrassment at the next session of your Grand Body, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

“*Resolved*,—That each Subordinate Chapter be required to assess each member twenty-five cents, and forward that amount to the Grand Secretary before the next Annual Convocation.”

The following resolutions were carried:—

“1st. *Resolved*, That a Committee of Three be appointed to consider the Receipts and Expenditures of this Grand Chapter, and to make such suggestions looking to a reduction of expenses as may seem best.

“2nd. That said Committee confer with the M. E. High Priest in preparing their report, which shall be submitted at the next Convocation of this Grand Chapter.”

* * * * *

“*Resolved*, That the M. E. Grand High Priest designate some Subordinate Chapter to exemplify at the next Annual Convocation the H. R. A. Degree.”

M. E. Comp. J. Adger Smyth (Charleston), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke (Charleston) Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

The fifty-second Annual Convocation was held at Nashville, November 11th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. J. H. Bullock, G. H. P.

He reports one new Chapter. On the condition of the Order, he says:—

“ This is a subject that demands our serious consideration. During the last few years several of our Chapters have forfeited their charters. Others that still exist are in a languishing condition, while very few are live, working bodies. A number of causes have operated to bring about this result:

“ 1. The multiplicity of new orders that have sprung up within the last few years.

“ 2. The railroad manner in which degrees are conferred, and the consequent ignorance of the work and lectures resulting therefrom.

“ 3. The pernicious practice of keeping one man, however good and zealous he may be, continually in office as High Priest, so that no one else learns the work.

“ To my mind the only remedy is a thorough system of instruction. The question to be considered is, how can this be accomplished? The appointment of a Grand Lecturer, as recommended by Companion Wright in his report to me, which will be read to the Grand Chapter, I would heartily endorse, if the financial condition of the Grand Chapter would warrant. Our financial condition as a Grand Chapter is such that I cannot make such a recommendation.

“ I would suggest that the Grand High Priest be authorized to appoint at least one Companion in each Congressional District whose duty it shall be to visit and instruct such Chapters in his District as may desire instruction, without expense to the Grand Chapter.

“ To you, my Companions, one and all, Representatives and Presiding Officers of Subordinate Chapters, let me say that if Capitular Masonry is languishing, we, as the Presiding Officers, are, in a large measure, responsible. Let us resolve that in the future we will be more zealous, that we will impart light and knowledge to our less informed brethren, to the end that Capitular Masonry may be an active, working agency for good throughout our jurisdiction.

“ In this connection I would recommend that Article 5 of our By-laws be so amended as to reduce the fees for Dispensations for forming new Chapters to forty dollars. This reduction will enable Companions who were members of Chapters who have forfeited their charters to obtain Dispensations and form new Chapters, and thus advance the interest of Capitular Masonry.”

The time of meeting was changed from November to January, and the next meeting will be held immediately after the close of the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The Proceedings are brief, and call for no other special comment. There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Gideon R. Gwynne (Lebanon), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John Frizzell (Nashville). Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The Thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Houston, December 9th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Z. E. Coombes, G. H. P.

He reports four new Chapters. Among the Representatives received and appointed, we notice R. E. Comp. Henry Scherffius, from Canada, to Texas, and R. E. Comp. Richard Brierly, of Hamilton, from Texas to Canada.

In his Conclusion he says:—

“With over one hundred Chapters, and a membership of more than three thousand upon our rolls, so profoundly have the ‘tenets of our profession’ been impressed upon the minds and hearts of the Royal Craft that my labors as Grand High Priest have been exceedingly light. I have had no case of discipline; no word of complaint has come up to me from any part of our jurisdiction.”

The Report of the Committee on Work is as follows:—

“The undersigned Committee on Work, respectfully represent that they have been in attendance at the Grand Chapter room during the week previous to the opening of this Grand Body, as required by the Edicts of the Grand Chapter; that the work has been fully exemplified in all the degrees, and ample opportunity afforded delegates to learn the work.

“We regret exceedingly to announce, that our very worthy and efficient associate on the Committee, Comp. Norton Moses, has been prevented from meeting with us by a very serious accident. Your Committee the more fully appreciate the absence of our afflicted associate and Companion, from the fact, that during his connection with this Committee, a period of seven years, we have never before been deprived of his assistance and counsel.”

It was resolved that no application for the degrees should be received or entertained unless the fee therefor accompanies the application.

On the subject of maimed candidates, the following Report was adopted:—

“The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to whom the resolution of enquiry in regard to the physical qualifications of candidates for the R. A. Degrees was referred, beg leave to report that it is an established rule in this Grand Chapter that where there is no edict or statute on such questions, the law of the Grand Lodge prevails and is decisive. It has always been held that the Masonry of the Blue Lodge and R. A. Chapters stand on the same basis, and whatever is required by the Lodge for initiation in the E. A. Degree, should be observed by the authority controlling Degrees in R. A. Masonry. The Grand Lodge of Texas requires a candidate should be without maim or defect of any kind. We believe that such is the rule in this Grand Chapter, and must be observed by all the Chapters in this jurisdiction.”

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Robert M. Elgin, and is chiefly taken up with arguments in support of their position in declining to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

In his notice of Canada for 1880, we find the following remarks. He says that the Address of Comp. Spry is one of the most interesting papers he has seen and thus continues:—

“While we have always advocated the correctness of the practice, or rather, the legality of the regulations, suspending for non-payment, we must say that there is nothing more repugnant to our feelings or to our ideas of justice than ‘the indiscriminate slaughter of every Companion who cannot meet the demands made upon him.’ We hope for the honor of the Craft in Canada the Grand H. P. has overstated it. We cannot claim to have more charity than our Canadian Companions. And yet we are certain that if a plea of poverty or inability to pay was presented in any Chapter in Texas, properly supported with evidence of its truth, the Lodge or Chapter would sustain it, and if it failed to do so the action would be reversed on appeal.

“He opposes the practice of allowing Royal Arch Masons to appear at funerals in distinct clothing, and thinks that *all* Freemasons should appear in the more simple and appropriate clothing of Master Masons. In this we concur. It is in accordance with our practice here.

“He calls attention to the practice in that jurisdiction of allowing Companions to sit in Chapter who had been suspended by their Lodges, and in accordance with his recommendation the Committee on Revision of the Constitution submitted an amendment prohibiting it, which lies over to the next session.

“Comp Henry Robertson presented another able Report on Cor-

respondence, but our Proceedings seem not to have reached him. For this we are sorry, for we had our say at him last year, and would have liked for him to have had an opportunity of replying. He still holds to the doctrine that a Mason expelled or suspended in his Lodge does not thereby lose his standing in the Chapter. We have so often discussed this question that it is unnecessary to further allude to it. We will wait and see if Comp. Robertson has enough support in the Grand Chapter to prevent the amendment to the Constitution above referred to. He stands alone on this question among the Reporters, and it is to be hoped that he and the other Companions of Canada will concede that the weight of authority is against them. We do not say that he should surrender his opinion on that account, but in judicial questions we think it safe to submit when the weight of opinion is decidedly against us after a full discussion."

We may state, for the information of Comp. Elgin, and some others, who may not have understood that, in our previous arguments, we were defending the provisions of our Constitution, that the amendment he refers to was drafted by the writer, who is also Chairman of the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution, and the passage of it was strongly urged by him in that Committee. We intend to support the amendment in the Grand Chapter, and have no doubt of its adoption.

M. E. Comp. John B. McMahon (Frietown), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Robert Brewster (Houston), Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

The sixty-fourth Annual Convocation was held at Burlington, June 17th, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Alfred A. Hall, G. H. P.

His decisions were as follows:—

"While many questions have been answered that might be recorded as decisions, I see no good that can arise from placing on record what has often been decided or the mere construction of an unambiguous statute. I therefore give but three:

"A petitioner for membership, if black-balled, may renew his petition at the next Regular Convocation, in the absence of a by-law prohibiting it

"A Regular Convocation cannot be called from labor to refreshment

until a subsequent day or Convocation; the business of a Regular Meeting must be completed on the day it is called, or lie over until a subsequent Convocation.

"The petition of a party residing in the Province of Québec should not be balloted upon without the consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence in that jurisdiction.

"The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter prohibits the conferring of degrees upon a person 'whose fixed place of abode is within any other State, District or Territory, except by consent, etc.'

"This should be construed as covering any other province or country where a Grand Chapter is located."

He appointed R. E. Comp. James Bower Nixon, as their Representative to the Grand Chapter of Canada, in the place of M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, who resigned that position.

We copy some of the observations of Comp. Hall:—

"Most of the Chapters in this jurisdiction are in good condition. Around their altars kneel men of ability and earnestness, who labor to make their Chapters a credit to the institution and to their localities. Of a few, I can but speak unfavorably. If not dead, they are sleeping; and unless they awake speedily should be buried. Whether this condition is due to a first cause, viz: that Chapters never should have been located where they are, or whether it is the fault of the members, I am unable to say. It should prove a lesson to us to be careful about establishing new Chapters.

"During my official connection with this Grand Body, I have often noted the fact that Subordinate Chapters do not always choose the best men for officers. It is not a matter that concerns a single Chapter, but one of general interest. Our institution is judged of by its members and often by its officers, and it is of the highest importance that selections be made with great care. 'But,' says my technical friend, 'our elections are held without nominations or previous arrangement. Electioneering is unmasonic.'

"The misunderstanding of this principle has proved a stumbling block and detriment to many Masonic bodies. Let us look beyond the word to the intention of those who laid down this general rule.

"Unmasonic electioneering, as I understand it, is the stooping to political practices in the interest of self or friends for office; contemptible in politics, and, if practiced in the slightest degree in a Masonic body, justly reprehensible.

"It is not unmasonic, if in the right spirit, the active members of a Lodge or Chapter canvass the qualifications of members for the various offices and reasonably advocate their fitness; nor is an honest ambition for office to be condemned.

"I can understand how greater harm may result from a chance ballot, for such it often is, when the annuals come in and out-vote the regulars, than in a careful looking over and selection of officers.

"When the best men are selected, they have much to do: they must perfect themselves in the work and executive duties; they must also

learn the art of interesting the members and attracting them to the meetings. If one experiment fails, adopt another. Your full duty will not be discharged until you can look with pride upon the flourishing condition of your Chapter. Rest assured that the satisfaction to be derived from such a result and the approbation of your Companions will amply reward you."

The Constitution was amended by making Past High Priests and Past Grand Treasurers permanent members of the Grand Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. Edward S. Dana, and notices Canada for 1880.

M. E. Comp. Homer M. Phelps (Burlington), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. H. S. Whitcomb (Burlington), Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

The seventy-third Annual Convocation was held at Richmond, December 16th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Samuel M. Bowman, G. H. P.

He reports the Craft in a very healthy condition and harmony prevailing. His duties had been light, and he was not called upon to decide any question of law.

A number of Reports from District Deputy Grand Lecturers appear in the Proceedings. These Reports prove that the interests of the several Subordinate Chapters are carefully attended to, and that they are enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity.

The Proceedings are brief, and require no comment. There is no Report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. Peyton S. Coles (Estouteville), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. William B. Isaacs (Richmond), Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The ninth Annual Convocation was held at Wheeling, November 13th, 1879.

M. E. Comp. John W. Grantham, G. H. P.

His Address opens as follows:—

“Another year has passed since we last assembled in Grand Convocation, and our heartfelt gratitude is due to the great Author of our being for the manifold blessings we have enjoyed. The year has been one long to be remembered for bountiful crops of all kinds; our granaries are full to repletion; no epidemic has affected our Brethren in this jurisdiction; peace and prosperity prevail everywhere. Yet our hearts are sad when we think of the scourge that has again visited our Companions in a sister jurisdiction and taken many a noble Craftsman to his final rest. Let us bow before the Great Giver of all good and thank Him for all His mercies to us and endeavor so to live that our conduct may meet His divine approbation.”

He appointed M. E. Comp. Samuel B. Harman, as their Representative to the Grand Chapter of Canada. He reports the issue of one Dispensation for a new Chapter.

We are also pleased to have the opportunity to copy the following paragraph. Comp. Albert Pike is well known to many of our Companions here, and wherever he is known, he is universally esteemed and respected:—

“In the month of September I attended at Byrne’s Island, near Harper’s Ferry, a Masonic Union, where I found representatives of the Order from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, to the number of two thousand, together with about six thousand citizens and strangers; but the great attraction was our esteemed Companion, General Albert Pike, who delivered the finest Masonic Address it has ever been my good fortune to listen to. This Brother is possessed of a fund of Masonic information rarely, if ever, excelled. In his Address he pointed out the whole duty of members of our Mystic Order, and what Masonry would be if all did their duty. One point in his Address particularly attracted my attention, viz., the importance of all State Grand Chapters having a common head, or in other words being members of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. His arguments and reasonings were conclusive to my mind, and if the difficulties could be overcome without sacrificing too much, I think it would be greatly to the advantage of Royal Arch Masonry in this State if our Grand Chapter should become a member of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Although more than seventy years have silvered the hair of

our venerable Brother, he is still vigorous and healthy, and I trust he may be spared many years to propagate the beloved principles of our noble Order."

The following Report was adopted:—

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence respectfully report that they are not prepared to approve of the decision of the M. E. Grand High Priest, to the effect that a non-affiliated Mason is not eligible to the Chapter Degrees.

"While we believe that a Master Mason, applying for the Chapter Degrees, should be a member of some Lodge, we do not think that the Grand Chapter would be justified in taking any action which would unfavorably affect the standing of a non-affiliated Mason in advance of the action of the Grand Lodge upon the subject.

"Until the Grand Lodge declares that a non-affiliated Mason is not in good standing, in the opinion of your Committee, a non-affiliated Mason is not, by reason of such non-affiliation, ineligible to the Chapter Degrees."

The Special Committee on the subject of the Union of the Grand Chapter with the General Grand Chapter, presented their Report, which was adopted as follows:—

"Your Special Committee on the Address of G. H. Priest beg leave to report, in regard to that portion of the Address which refers to the adhesion of this Grand Chapter to the Grand Chapter of the United States, that we deem the subject too important to be disposed of in the brief period now available for its consideration. We, therefore, recommend that the subject be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Comps. T. H. Logan and O. S. Long, with instructions to report at the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter."

The tenth Annual Convocation was held at Wheeling, November 8th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. Arthur Sinzel, G. H. P.

He recounts his Official Acts, which were few in number, and he then says:—

"The foregoing is all the official business which I have been called upon to perform during the year. I have not been required to decide any questions of Masonic law, nor have any grievances arisen within our jurisdiction to my knowledge during the past year, which is certainly very gratifying, as it indicates profound peace and perfect harmony prevailing within our borders.

"I am glad to state that a number of the Chapters in our State are doing nobly for the Royal Craft; they seem to be imbued with that fervency and zeal that should actuate all Royal Arch Masons. I regret to say that from the best information that I have, we have some Chapters in this jurisdiction that have a name to live, yet they are dead. I hope it may be your pleasure to devise some means whereby we may all press forward with renewed earnestness and zeal in the good cause of Royal Arch Masonry, that our lives may be of use to our fellow-men, and when we pass into that undiscovered country whence no traveller returns, we may go with a sustaining consciousness of duty well performed, to receive the reward reserved for the faithful."

Two Chapters were declared extinct, not having held any meetings for over two years.

The Committee on Jurisprudence congratulated the Grand Chapter upon the thorough understanding of the Constitution held by the presiding officers of the various Chapters, as evinced by the absence of any questions for their consideration.

Comp. Logan, from the Committee upon the relations of the Grand Chapter to the General Grand Chapter, made a verbal report, concluding with a request that the Committee should have further time to prosecute their enquiries, and with leave to report at the next meeting. On motion, the same Committee was continued, with leave to report as requested.

M. E. Comp. William H. H. Flick (Martinsburg), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Odell S. Long (Wheeling), Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

The thirty-first Annual Convocation was held at Milwaukee, February 22nd, 1881.

M. E. Comp. Fred. Ring, Jr., G. H. P.

The address opens with the following choice paragraph:—

"Old Father Time having turned another leaf brings us once more to the day of our annual meeting, to review our actions during the past year, and by consultation and friendly criticism detect what

errors have been made, so that in the future we may be still nearer perfection. No one can be present during these gatherings without being forcibly struck with the fact that the claim we make of being a band of brothers is no mere empty phrase; the hearty greeting, the warm pressure of the hand, the pleasure with which we renew the acquaintance broken off for a time by the cares of business, as well as the anxious enquiries after the absent, all tend to show the genuine fraternal spirit which pervades us. While we are realizing this true enjoyment, let us not forget to drop a sympathetic tear to the memory of those who have been called to serve their Master in another sphere, nor forget to enquire into the circumstances of the bereaved ones, that their necessities may receive the requisite attention."

We also extract from the address as follows:—

"On application of M. E. Comp. Thomas Montgomery, G. H. P. of Minnesota, I assented to a relinquishment of jurisdiction over several brethren at Alma, who wished to join the Chapter at Wabasha, Minn., provided I received from West Eau Claire Chapter a certificate that they had given their unanimous consent thereto."

* * * * *

"I have issued one dispensation for the election of officers at a time other than that designated by the By-laws, and one for a Chapter to wear its jewels and regalia at a public installation. I have also in three instances issued dispensations to communicate the Council degrees, it appearing to me, from the information presented, that it would be for the best interest of Cryptic Masonry.

"On request of Kilbourn Chapter, No. 1, I granted a dispensation to hold their Annual Meeting on Dec. 22nd, instead of Dec. 24th (Christmas Eve), provided each member of the said Chapter had due and timely notice of the change of date."

The membership now is 3,292, a gain of 126 since the last report.

The Grand Lecturer, Comp. Melvin L. Youngs, reported, among other matters, as follows:—

"DEAR SIR AND COMP.—During the past year I have officially visited all the Chapters designated at the last Annual Convocation to be visited by the Lecturer. Several of these were visited as soon as possible after the Grand Convocation, and the others during the fall and winter months. In my report of last year I alluded to the evident increase of interest being taken in Capitular Masonry in the jurisdiction; that a better attendance upon the meetings of the different Chapters was observable, and a fair amount of work was being done. This continued until the summer vacation, which most of our Chapters have for the last number of years been in the habit of taking, when for three, and often times for four months, nothing is attempted to be done, not even to open. But owing to the excitement attendant upon the late Presidential campaign, and from other causes, this in-

terregnum was continued some weeks longer than usual, many of them not getting fairly started until about the time of their annual election of officers. This long cessation from labor has resulted in a material loss of interest and a diminished attendance. In the warm months of summer, with short evenings and poorly ventilated halls, these vacations seem to be almost a necessity, and yet I am forced to the conclusion that the practice is too often detrimental to the prosperity of a Chapter. When the stated Convocations are held, some, if not all, of the members will attend, and thus keep up the habit of so doing; while with a long vacation this is many times lost, and it requires a strong effort and hard work to overcome this apathy, particularly in Chapters that are doing but little work. The past year has been no exception in this respect, as most of the officers of Chapters can testify. That there has been, as a rule, less interest taken in Capitular Masonry for the last number of years than in other branches is apparent to all, and various reasons have been assigned for it; but all, without exception, ascribe it to the regulation, adopted only a few years ago by the Grand Chapter, prohibiting the use of substitutes in the conferring of the R. A. Degree, more than to any other cause, and for reasons which must be obvious to all. This subject will, no doubt, be fully discussed at the present session in considering the proposed amendment to the Constitution on this subject."

We also copy the Report of the Committee on Ritual:—

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the matter of Ritual as adopted by the General Grand Chapter, at its session in Detroit, in 1880, report as follows:—

"1. There is, in our opinion, but one thing to be done in the premises, and that is to report the same to the Grand Chapter as it has been received from the General Grand High Priest, and then correct our work to correspond therewith. We are pleased to state that, although some radical changes have been made, at the same time the changes in our work necessary to conform to the same, are not as extensive as might at first be supposed.

"Our Ritual, as previously used, contained many historical blunders, differing from almost all the Grand Chapters in this country. The adoption of this Ritual, which is obligatory upon us, gives an opportunity to correct errors, and places us upon an equal footing with the other Grand Chapters, and gives us a uniform Ritual in all parts of the country. We have looked forward to this result for many years, and with much anxiety. It now having become a fixed fact that we have a Ritual, ordered and promulgated by the highest authority in the land, your Committee congratulate the Companions upon the accomplishment of this much-to-be-desired result.

"2. Your Committee have carefully examined the Ritual, but do not feel able, in the short time we have, to report to the Grand Chapter a complete Ritual, in conformity with that adopted by the General Grand Chapter, but recommend that the Committee be given ten days time in which to consider the matter, and carefully prepare the same for the inspection of the Grand Council, after which the same shall be promulgated in such form as the Grand High Priest may direct.

We further recommend that the Committee be directed to prepare a Monitor, appropriate to the Ritual, containing:—

“1. All the monitorial work.

“2. The installation service as adopted by the Grand Chapter.

“3. All necessary forms for the use of Chapters.

“The same to be furnished to the Chapters of this State at the actual cost of the same.”

The Report on Correspondence is by Comp. J. P. C. Cott-rill, and notices Canada for 1880.

Under “Indiana,” he says:—

“The Jurisprudence Committee reported that a suspension or expulsion for any cause (whether in Lodge or Chapter, is not stated), debars Masonic intercourse with him; also, that two substitutes, or as many as may be found necessary to confer the degrees properly, may be employed.

“So, substitutes, come on,
We care not a bit how many;
We'll welcome all, and take you in,
And cheer you all, without regard
To whether you are few or several; and
Our rhyme shall be as irregular
As your progress in the Chapter.”

Under “Mississippi,” he says:—

“A Law Committee exists here. Being a lawyer, we think it a good thing, and they made brief report upon Masonic questions. The minimum fee for degrees was fixed at twenty dollars. This followed the report of a Committee, which, in order to arrest the decline of Masonry, recommended that the fees be reduced fifty per cent., or that an insurance feature be incorporated. Both propositions are, we think, wrong. Masonry does not especially desire increase, particularly in order to get money. It would live in any jurisdiction among true hearts, if not a single degree were conferred in a year. And the insurance business is very objectionable. One of these fine days some agent will absquatulate with all the funds, as has happened already in at least one important instance. A proposition to continue the mileage and per diem system was voted down, a constitutional amendment being pending, which, we think, should be adopted everywhere, that each Chapter pay its Representatives. Stick to this, Comp. Power, and let us see if we cannot get its universal adoption. Various Charters were forfeited. Much business was done.”

M. E. Comp. Fred. Ring, Jr. (La Crosse), G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John W. Woodhull (Milwaukee), Grand Secretary.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The Twenty-ninth Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States was held at Detroit, Michigan, commencing on August 24th, 1880.

M. E. Comp. John Frizzell, G. G. H. P.

The Address of the General Grand High Priest is a very able and interesting document, fully proving that the author is well worthy of his exalted position. The list of deaths given by him is a large one. Among the more prominent, we notice the names of Comp. John McClellan, of Boston, General Grand Treasurer, and Comp. Ezra S. Barnum, of New York.

On the subject of the Council Degrees, Comp. Frizzell says:—

“The relation properly subsisting between the Council degrees and Royal Arch Masonry is engaging the attention of the Craft, and various opinions are entertained and expressed. The position of the General Grand Chapter upon this subject is unmistakable, as may be gathered from the following statement :

“Prior to 1853, its Constitution contained this provision :

“‘No Royal Arch Mason, within the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, shall be permitted to confer any degree in Masonry not recognized as a constitutional degree; nor to establish any society of Masons not recognized as a constitutional Body.’

“In 1850, this provision was construed by the General Grand Chapter by the adoption of the following resolution :

“‘That in the opinion of this General Grand Chapter, those are constitutional Masonic degrees only which are conferred in regular Blue Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Encampments of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders, Councils of Royal and Select Masters, and Supreme Councils of the ‘Ancient and Accepted Rite,’ and their inferior jurisdictions.’

“In 1853 the Constitution was amended by striking out the provision aforesaid, and inserting the following as Section 9 of Article I :

“‘The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason; and no Royal Arch Mason who shall have regularly received said degrees, shall be excluded from the rights of such by reason of his not being in possession of any other so-called degrees.’

“Since that time this Body has uniformly held that it had no con-

trol whatever over the Council degrees, and, of course, that Chapters adhering to its jurisdiction had no right to confer them.

"The attempts recently made, by which some Grand Chapters in this jurisdiction seek to assume control over these degrees, and, by agreement with Grand Councils and otherwise, to authorize Chapters to confer them, either directly or indirectly, are in direct contravention of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and demand your serious consideration.

"Whether this Body will now attempt, by amendment to its Constitution, to assume control over or recognize these degrees as properly belonging to Chapters, is a matter about which, no doubt, differences of opinion will exist.

"It is respectfully suggested that if any change be made, it would be far more desirable to eliminate some of the degrees now recognized as belonging to the Chapter (for instance, Past Master), rather than encumber the work of Capitular Masonry, already severely taxed in this respect, with additional work and lectures. Besides, we should thus take a step in the direction of securing uniformity between our system and that practiced in other countries. This uniformity is greatly to be desired, and any attempt in that direction would be fruitless so long as doubts exist as to what is our own system and practice."

He recapitulates the history of their position with regard to the Grand Chapter of Texas, and concludes his remarks on this subject as follows:—

"Under all the circumstances the conviction is forced upon the mind that forbearance has ceased to be a virtue, and that nothing is now left but to take decisive action.

"It is, therefore, recommended:—

"1. That the General Grand Chapter take such steps as will forbid and prohibit all Masonic intercourse, as Royal Arch Masons, between those in its jurisdiction and the Grand Chapter of Texas and its subordinates, and those adhering to the jurisdiction of said Grand Chapter.

"2. This prohibition to be removed whenever said Grand Chapter shall resume its allegiance to the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and shall revoke and annul the legislation of 1861 and subsequently, by which it was attempted to sever that allegiance.

"3. That in the meantime such steps be taken as will secure and protect in their allegiance those Chapters and Companions in Texas still adhering or preferring to adhere to the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

On the general outlook, he says:—

"With now and then an occasional exception, peace, harmony and good-will exist among the Masons and various Masonic Bodies of this country. As a rule, the members exemplify in their daily lives the principles inculcated in our work and lectures.

"While it is true that fewer persons seek admission than in former years, we are not to regard this as matter for regret, as, perhaps, nothing is more detrimental to the true interests and proper growth of the Order than popularity—at least such popularity as existed for several years, commencing, say, fifteen years ago.

"So long as the individual members adhere with fidelity to the practice of those virtues taught in our Rituals and enjoined by our laws; so long as they eschew extravagance and love of display, and regard as paramount an unselfish devotion to the practice of that charity which regards it as more blessed to give than to receive; so long as they regard Masonry as a means of doing good to their fellow-men and of making themselves better, and not as a means of aiding in the attempt to promote selfish ends and purposes, may we, with unfaltering confidence, look forward to a bright future for the Order. On the other hand, whenever selfishness and love of display shall take the place of these teachings in our thoughts and affections, then we may certainly expect the dark clouds of adversity to hover over us."

There are 36 Grand Chapters owing fealty to the General Grand Chapter, all of which made returns, except Florida, Minnesota, Rhode Island, and Texas.

Dispensations were issued for six new Chapters: two in Indian Territory, two in Dakota, one in Arizona, and one in Montana.

The presence of a distinguished visitor from Canada is recorded as follows:—

"Comp. James Seymour, P. G. Z. of the Grand Chapter of Canada, was announced in waiting for the purpose of visiting the General Grand Chapter, whereupon the General Grand High Priest appointed Comps. Austin and Drummond a committee to wait upon and escort the distinguished Companion to the presence of the General Grand Chapter, and upon his introduction he was received with the honors due his rank."

The Revised Constitution was considered and adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

"Comp. Robt. F. Bower, Keokuk, Iowa, General Grand High Priest.
"Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, Boston, Mass., Deputy General Grand High Priest.

"Comp. Noble D. Larner, Washington, D. C., General Grand King.

"Comp. Henry Bostwick, Covington, Ky., General Grand Scribe.

"Comp. Reuben C. Lemmon, Toledo, O., General Grand Treasurer.

"Comp. Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y., Gen'l Grand Secretary."

"Comp. David F. Day, Buffalo, N. Y., was elected General Grand

Captain of the Host, and Comp. Joseph P. Horner, New Orleans, La., General Grand Principal Sojourner."

"Comp. Thomas McF. Patton, Portland, Oregon, General Grand Royal Arch Captain.

"Comp. James Southgate, Durham, N. C., General Grand Master 3d Vail.

"Comp. Benjamin F. Haller, Memphis, Tenn., General Grand Master 2d Vail.

"Comp. Daniel H. Wheeler, Plattsmouth, Neb., General Grand Master 1st Vail."

The work in all the Degrees was exemplified by the Committee on Rituals, and after due consideration and some amendment, it was finally adopted as the Ritual of the Degrees of Capitular Masonry. On motion of Comp. Innes, of Michigan, it was

"*Resolved*,—That the Committee on Esoteric Work be requested to prepare and submit to the Grand Council of the General Grand Chapter the work adopted this day by this Grand Body, and that the said Grand Council take steps to promulgate the same to the several Grand Chapters in this jurisdiction in such manner as to them may seem proper.

"[NOTE.—To prevent any misunderstanding of the action of the General Grand Chapter, in revising the Rituals of the several degrees, it is proper to state that only the essential instruction pertaining to each degree, with the technical forms of communicating the same, were adopted.—GENERAL GRAND SECRETARY.]"

The Charters of Cyrus Chapter, at Valparaiso, Chili, and St. John's Chapter, at Smyrna, Turkey, were declared forfeited, as they had not made returns for the past nine years.

The following Report on the Cryptic Rite was adopted:—

"The Select Committee to which were referred various documents in relation to conferring the Royal and Select Masters' Degrees under the authority of Royal Arch Chapters, have considered the same, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

"*Resolved*,—That the General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over the Degrees of Royal Master and Select Master, and that it is inexpedient for the General Grand Chapter to take any action concerning them."

The Grand Chapter of Delaware sent a memorial, asking some modification of the rule requiring nine members of a Chapter to form a quorum, for all purposes, except opening

and closing a Chapter and conferring Degrees, but it was decided to refuse the request, as the rule referred to had been incorporated in the revised Constitution.

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted a Report on the Grand Chapter of Texas and a minority Report on the same subject. Several amendments and substitutes were offered in place of the Resolution proposed by the Committee, which were voted down, and it was finally decided to postpone action until the next Triennial Convocation.

The next meeting will be held at Denver, Colorado, on the Monday preceding the second Tuesday of August, 1883, (August 13th,) at twelve o'clock, noon.

The festivities of the occasion included a reception by the Grand Chapter of Michigan, and the civil authorities of the City of Detroit, a carriage ride through the city, an excursion on the Detroit River, and a grand Banquet.

STATISTICS.

We give the usual Table of Statistics, taken from the Report on Correspondence of Maine, adding thereto the number of Subordinate Chapters, under the Jurisdiction of the several Grand Chapters:—

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions and Restorations.	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Susp. for Non- payment dues.	Deaths.	Rejections.	No. of Chapters.
Alabama.....	927	57	24	28	0	0	59	21	3	34
Arkansas.....	1,216	60	26	12	3	4	16	25	....	38
California.....	2,904	129	83	90	4	1	*115	24	....	51
Canada.....	3,403	216	32	117	0	....	*70	3	....	76
Colorado.....	398	45	6	7	....	....	*20	2	....	10
Connecticut.....	4,027	149	28	42	0	1	14	46	....	38
Delaware.....	320	13	0	1	0	....	*11	3	....	6
District of Columbia.....	1,051	63	21	23	0	1	53	9	2	8
Florida.....	236	12	4	6	0	....	*6	3	0	10
Georgia.....	1,200	42	28	54	2	....	*48	10	0	33
Illinois.....	9,779	485	114	313	34	....	*339	132	....	167
Indiana.....	4,508	188	29	143	14	15	107	51	....	87
Iowa.....	4,149	239	46	138	1	....	*118	42	....	91
Kansas.....	1,287	100	36	27	0	....	*61	11	....	35
Kentucky.....	2,810	132	61	86	8	....	*138	41	6	105
Louisiana.....	996	20	9	17	0	3	51	20	0	23
Maine.....	4,136	162	7	70	0	0	64	35	13	43
Maryland.....	1,159	59	7	26	1	....	*25	12	7	12
Massachusetts.....	9,157	327	....	214	4	....	*170	100	....	68
Michigan.....	6,873	335	71	198	8	4	192	82	....	99
Minnesota.....	1,834	136	26	28	0	0	56	10	....	29
Mississippi.....	1,500	47	37	40	0	0	71	32	....	57
Missouri.....	4,000	245	91	223	7	6	265	74	18	90
Nebraska.....	790	48	15	16	1	3	0	8	....	21
Nevada.....	402	32	9	18	0	0	5	8	2	8
New Hampshire.....	2,194	95	161	44	1	0	16	29	17	20
New Jersey.....	2,699	89	19	74	2	....	*130	22	....	35
New York.....	16,078	592	181	349	6	3	890	202	....	191
North Carolina.....	874	19	3	6	1	3	0	11	....	19
Nova Scotia.....	437	33	3	15	0	0	13	2	....	11
Ohio.....	8,459	541	250	194	29	....	*352	114	....	140
Oregon.....	531	51	5	6	0	1	....	4	5	15
Pennsylvania.....	10,171	375	50	129	....	....	*378	139	....	103
Quebec.....	364	10	3	11	....	....	*34	4	....	11
Rhode Island.....	1,638	37	3	....	....	....	....	22	5	10
South Carolina†.....	667	20	6	23	0	1	51	8	....	22
Tennessee.....	3,145	61	31	73	2	8	74	53	....	92
Texas.....	3,602	165	100	148	9	....	*122	74	....	94
Vermont.....	1,934	75	13	20	1	....	*20	24	....	25
Virginia.....	1,639	73	59	66	1	....	*30	18	....	28
West Virginia†.....	465	26	2	12	2	2	23	6	....	14
Wisconsin.....	3,166	130	43	66	1	....	*30	32	....	52
	127,025	5,733	1,742	3,183	122	56	4,237	1,602	78	2,121

* Including all suspensions. † Last year's figures.

This shows a falling off from last year of about 1,000.

CONCLUSION.

The following Proceedings have not been received :—

SCOTLAND.....	1880.
KANSAS.....	1880.
KENTUCKY.....	1880.
OREGON.....	1880.
RHODE ISLAND.....	1880.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

COLLINGWOOD, Ont., Canada, }
July 7th, 1881.

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